

Unhappy end to a cruise: some passengers are transferred to a ferry from the damaged luxury liner QE2 while others stay on board to watch or relax by the pool

## Crossings cancelled after QE2 runs aground off US

THE Queen Elizabeth II hit a submerged object off the coast of Massachusetts with such force that six gashes, one 74-ft long, were ripped into the ship's starboard side. The cracks ruptured three ballast tanks and a fuel tank.

Divers found that the 74-ft gash, which was three to five inches wide and five feet from the bottom of the hull, began a quarter of the way down from the bow of the 900ft ship. It was followed by an 18ft crack that was one inch wide.

The first mark on the starboard side was a 5ft-wide dent that was two to five inches deep. A spokeswoman for the US Coastguard said: "It was like the mark you get when you push your thumb into a Coke can." It was followed by four cracks that were three to five feet long, one inch wide and with three-foot gaps between them.

None of the 1,817 passengers was injured and the ship was never in any danger of sinking. Its breached tanks took in about an inch of water per hour, which was stemmed by pumps. Some fuel seeped into the water, but was contained using oil booms. The ship was quickly re-floated and then anchored.

The QE2 ran aground in hazardous waters where the *Andrea Doria* sank, Nicholas Watt and Ben MacIntyre report

Coastguards believe the QE2 hit a sandbank or rock ledge about 10.20pm local time Friday night (early Saturday morning, our time), ten miles off Buzzard's Bay, a notoriously hazardous shipping area. The ship was sailing in 35-ft waters under the direction of a local coastal pilot, John F. Hadley, near where the Italian liner *Andrea Doria* sank in 1956, with the loss of 43 lives.

The waters should have been safe for the vessel, which has a draft of 30ft. However, maritime charts of the area show that there is a small patch of sea with a depth of only 20 to 25 feet.

A Cunard spokesman stressed yesterday that the ship was under the control of Mr Hadley and not the ship's crew. Mr Hadley's employers, Northeast Pilots, described him as "one of the

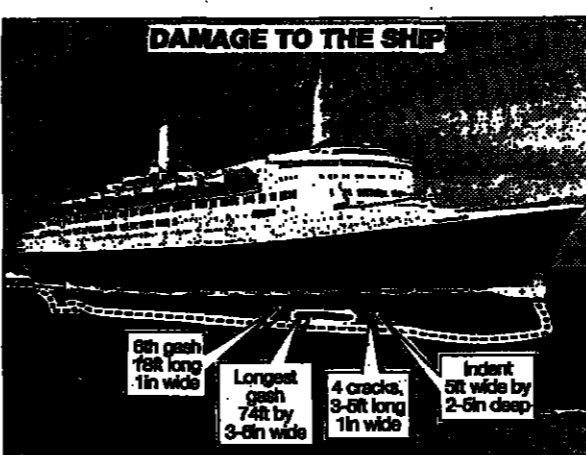
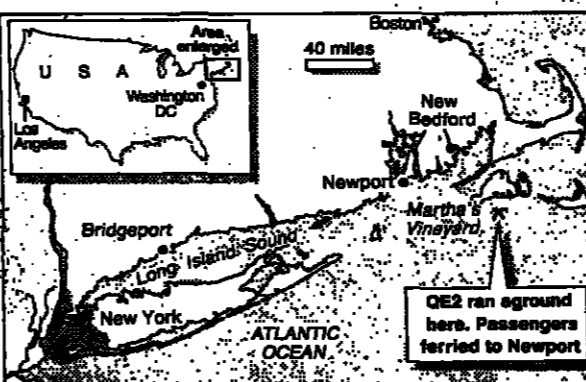
most experienced pilots in the area". Northeast Pilots, which arranges for pilots to navigate ships through the hazardous coastal waters of Massachusetts, said Mr Hadley had been with the company for 16 years and had regularly piloted ships through Rhode Island Sound, which is infamous for its rapidly shifting currents and maze of small islands. The QE2 makes the voyage through the area twice a year.

Northeast Pilots yesterday described Mr Hadley, who is from Newport, Rhode Island, as "a local sailor in his late forties", but refused to say whether he had piloted the QE2 through the sound on its previous voyages to Newfoundland.

Both he and Robin Woodall, the ship's captain, have been given routine drug and alcohol tests. Mr Hadley's lawyer, William Hewig, said that his client "may be the target of an investigation". An investigation is now under way to determine whether the accident was caused by a navigational error, a fault in the ship's charts or the changing underwater geography of the area. As the ship was in international waters the investigation will be carried out jointly by Britain's transport department and the US National Transport Safety Board.

The 66,000-tonne ship, with 2,817 people on board, including crew, had left Martha's Vineyard on the final leg of its five-day round-trip cruise from New York to Nova Scotia in Canada. The QE2's next two scheduled transatlantic crossings have been cancelled and she is due to resume services from New York to Southampton on August 18. Customers have been promised refunds on deposits.

The ship has been beset by problems ever since she was launched from Clydebank in 1967. She suffered a major engine failure on her maiden voyage to the Canary Islands and had to be returned to the shipyard. In 1987, after a £100 million refit in the then



West Germany, there were so many faults that Cunard had to pay out £900,000 in rebates to passengers. In 1989 more than 160 crew and passengers came down with diarrhoea, and last year a New

York rabbi alleged that food labelled on the ship's menu as kosher was not. The Cunard spokesman said yesterday that such a statement bore testimony to the prestige of the ship.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

## Police hold couple over spying allegations

Special branch officers investigating possible espionage allegations involving an east European country and a London couple were yesterday given permission by a magistrate to continue questioning the two for a further 36 hours (Stewart Tindler writes). The allegations could involve espionage for an Iron Curtain country some years ago before the end of communist rule in the east. Yesterday senior special branch officers met at Scotland Yard to discuss the enquiry. A detailed investigation was under way as police tried to determine whether they were dealing with a genuine case under the espionage section of the Official Secrets Act.

The couple, both British citizens, were held under the Official Secrets Act at the weekend and yesterday officers were carrying out an extensive search of their home in Surrey. The two are being held at Paddington Green police station, west London, which is used for high-security cases. Yesterday morning officers went to a magistrate at Horseferry Road court in central London for an extension under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act to enable them to continue talking to the couple for a further 36 hours. They can continue to hold them until later today.

## RUC enquiry goes on

RUC detectives are continuing investigations into the controversial Channel 4 documentary alleging the existence of Northern Ireland death squads run by a committee which included police officers, an RUC spokesman confirmed yesterday. A refusal by the channel and the programme-makers to supply the name of a key informant led to a £75,000 fine by the High Court last month and the police investigation could lead to fresh confrontation. The spokesman could not comment on reports that police were sifting through documents on the making of the programme supplied for the court case and examining allegations about the validity or existence of some sources and the budget or expenses for the production. Channel 4 said it stood "100 per cent behind the programme".

## Courts 'allow race bias'

Race discrimination is continuing in courts and prisons because the criminal justice system has been slow and inconsistent in implementing equality policies, a report published today says. Although 71 out of 73 magistrates' courts had adopted an equal opportunities policy, the majority lacked clear objectives and less than half had reviewed the policy, the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders says. The proportion of black prisoners in prison has risen from 12.6 per cent in 1985 to 16 per cent today, compared with less than 5 per cent of the general population. The report summarises research indicating that Afro-Caribbean offenders tend to go to prison younger than whites and that their offences are more likely to be put into the most serious legal category.

## Hodgson regains lead

Julian Hodgson, the reigning champion, became joint leader after round six of the British chess championship in Plymouth, defeating Andrew Martin in 20 moves. Hodgson, from London, sacrificed a knight to chase Martin's king and finished by sacrificing a rook either to win black's queen or to deliver checkmate. The other overnight leader, the grandmaster Jonathan Mestel, could make no progress in his game against Mark Hebden, another grandmaster. A hard-fought game ended in a draw when Hebden was forced to repeat moves to prevent the advance of Mestel's pawns. The leading scores are: Hodgson and Mestel, five points out of six; Hebden, James Howell, Darshan Kumaran, Andrew Webster, Jonathan Levitt and John Emms, four and a half points.

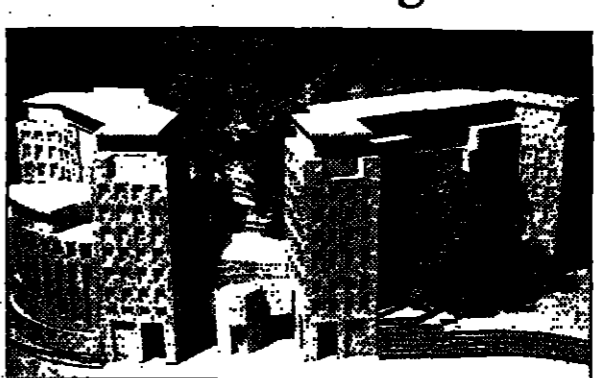
## Thieves take to water

High-powered water skis, water bikes and other small craft are the new targets for thieves moving off roads and on to the rivers, according to a Scotland Yard marine intelligence team which has just completed its first year of operations (Stewart Tindler writes). The team suspects that some of the £3,500 skis may be exported to be sold in countries like Spain, where they are hired out to holidaymakers on the beaches. In London about 50 a year disappear. The stolen skis are part of a growing number of expensive small water vehicles classed as "personal water craft" which are transported by trailer and are easily stolen. In 1990 insurers reported losses of £6.5 million for such craft. The figure for last year is expected to be £10 million.

## IRA veteran at rally

Joe Cahill, one of the founders of the IRA, made his first public appearance for 21 years on a Republican platform yesterday during an anti-internment commemorative rally in west Belfast. Mr Cahill, 72, a former Belfast IRA commander and convicted gunman, fled from Ulster in 1971 within days of the introduction of internment. He gave a clenched fist salute as he emerged to address the gathering in Dunville Park, flanked by Gerry Adams, the Sinn Féin president.

## Farrell HK design wins



Britain's new consulate in Hong Kong is to be designed by the architect Terry Farrell, the foreign office has announced. His scheme was chosen ahead of five others in a competition held following Margaret Thatcher's decision in 1988 that a major public building was needed to affirm a continuing British presence in Hong Kong after the colony reverted to China in 1997. Mr Farrell said yesterday: "Until recently Hong Kong was distinguished by groups of dignified low-rise public buildings. While high-rise has given the colony a new, dramatic character, there has been a loss of sense of place at street level."

Construction is expected to start in mid-1993 and take 2½ years to complete. The current premises are spread around Hong Kong on short leases.

## BBC revises schedule

Because of the early end to the England-Pakistan test match, BBC2 will broadcast highlights from the match today at 9am as originally scheduled, but planned live coverage from 10.50am until 1.05pm will be replaced by a repeat of the Olympic closing ceremony. The revised BBC2 afternoon schedule is: 1.35pm *Wildlife on Two*; 2pm *Pigtailed Monkey*; 2pm *News*; 2.05pm *Great Britons*; 2.10pm *Marlborough*; 3.00pm *News*; 3.05pm *The World About Us*; 3.10pm *Journey to the Fourth World*; 3.50pm *News*; 4.00pm *Film: Last Command*; 5.45pm *Horizon*; 6.15pm *Life*. The BBC1 scheduled cricket highlights at 11.50pm will be replaced and Radio 3 will replace live cricket coverage with a schedule of classical music. Radio 5 will broadcast *Sportsbeat* instead of its planned cricket coverage.

## Five killed as storms batter Britain

By DAVID YOUNG

FIVE people died as violent storms crossed Britain early yesterday. Torrential rain and lightning caused fires, flooding and traffic disruption.

Thousands of homes in Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire lost power supplies and six houses in Northamptonshire were set on fire by lightning. Radar equipment and escalators at Gatwick Airport were disrupted by a power dip, and a fire station

in Northamptonshire was also hit by lightning, suffering damage to communications equipment. In Kettering, in the county, houses in three streets were evacuated as flood waters poured in.

One man died when he was struck by lightning and seven others suffered serious burns. Nigel Clark, 22, of Impington, Cambridgeshire, was killed when he was struck by lightning as he stepped outside his holiday caravan at Billing Aquadrome, North-

ampton. In Hampshire, Geoffrey Hart, of Wherwell, was struck by lightning but suffered only severe arm injuries, having just changed from steel toe-capped boots to shoes with rubber soles. At the Longmore army training camp in Bordon, Hampshire, Sergeant Major John Davidson was treated for burns and concussion after he was struck by lightning. Pressure on emergency services was increased by hundreds of fire and burglar alarms set off by the electrical storm. Three

people died in traffic accidents in the heavy rain and Ian Todd, of Clifton, Rotherham, died after he was electrocuted as he searched for a water leak in the roof of Adwick Leisure Centre in Woodlands, Doncaster. South Yorkshire, where he was assistant manager.

Alison Overton, 21, of Briggs, Humberstone, was killed, and her 11-month-old daughter Amy suffered severe head injuries after being thrown from their car following a collision with another car. Earlier Anthony Newby, 55, of Grimsby, died when his motor cycle struck a crash barrier on the Humber bridge.

One person died and four were seriously injured in a crash involving a car, bus and van on the A15 near RAF Scampton in Lincolnshire, and a second accident 40 miles away on the same road at Folkingham left two people seriously injured.

In Warwickshire, Hills Angels and other bikers dried out after their annual rock festival at Long Marston airfield was rocked by violent thunderstorms. The camp site was flooded after rain swept the village, north of Stratford-upon-Avon.

Forecast, page 14

## Simplified benefit scheme targets fraud

By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A "ONE-STOP" benefit payment scheme to streamline the social security system and cut fraud will be unveiled by Peter Lilley, the social security secretary, today.

Claimants should be able to apply for a range of different benefits, including unemployment benefit, in the same place. They would deal with a single member of staff and use one form for multiple applications.

Mr Lilley is expected to announce that pilot schemes will be set up over the next few months in Sandwell, West Midlands, Northampton and Newcastle upon Tyne. They should start operating by the autumn.

The aim of the scheme is to simplify the complex social security system that often deters people from taking up their claims. At present, claimants have to fill in a different form for each benefit, usually repeating the same details on each application. The social security department's £500 million computerisation programme will build up a "benefit profile" of claimants, so that details can be cross-checked. Mr Lilley has also been considering al-

lowing Benefits Agency staff to offer clear advice on which benefits to claim to ensure that maximum entitlements are known to claimants.

Social security now accounts for a third of all public spending and ministers are scrutinising ways in which the £70 billion bill can be reduced. Although Mr Lilley's scheme is likely to increase benefit take-up, he argues that the costs will be more than outweighed by the savings in administration.

The social security and employment departments are also concerned about escalating fraud, costing several hundred million pounds a year. Combining employment benefit applications with other claims should help to curb abuse.

At the end of this month Mr Lilley will have to do battle with Michael Portillo, chief secretary to the Treasury, about next year's expenditure plans. With unemployment likely to rise to nearly three million by the end of the year, Mr Lilley will be asking for a further £2 billion to pay for benefits. Demand-led pension benefits are also likely to rise.

## Volunteer army 'ignored'

COUNCILS are failing to take advantage of an army of volunteers who could help them maintain care services, according to a report published today.

Less than eight months before councils take full responsibility for Care in the Community, a survey of their plans for its introduction found that in spite of a growing demand for extra help local authorities are failing to take advantage of potential voluntary support.

The study by the charity Community Service Volun-

teers (CSV) covered half of all councils in England and Wales and found that only two thirds mentioned using voluntary groups at all.

In most cases the plans referred to hiring paid professionals employed by voluntary groups and not to volunteers. Only 14 per cent had plans to recruit and use volunteers on a regular basis.

Elisabeth Hoodless, the charity's director, said: "There is widespread talk of the need for extra support but few clear plans for mobilising it."

CSV operates a full-time volunteer scheme for young people willing to spend between four months and a year helping people in need. Ms Hoodless said the numbers volunteering for the scheme had risen 30 per cent in the last two years.

More than 2,500 young people were taking part and the survey had found that among older people half of those questioned said they would be prepared to give their time to help others if they were asked by a suitable organisation.

### MICK'S STORY

"I hatched up this bright idea with my mates. We'd seen the adverts of insurance companies telling how to claim for household storm damage. It would be easy to have some headed note paper printed in the name of a builder and sell estimates and invoices to send to insurance companies. We only got away with it twice and made a few quid but then one day the insurance company sent someone to inspect the "repair". We had it coming really, the insurance company pressed charges. I got a four month prison sentence and the house owner was fined £200. Not a profitable venture for either of us."

### CHEATING ON INSURANCE IS A CRIME

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## Police join forces to evict travellers from illegal camps

By LIN JENKINS

HAMPSHIRE police called on neighbouring forces yesterday to help them to evict two illegal camps of New Age travellers. They are aware, however, that they may have to return the favour if the travellers regroup beyond the county boundaries.

The two gatherings near Romsey have so far led to up to £1 million of damage, 20 arrests and injuries to three police officers. A council incineration plant was wrecked after being set alight and daubed with graffiti by travellers camped in Poles Lane, Otterbourne. A further 150 vehicles have gathered at the Chivers Pit, a disused quarry on the outskirts of Romsey.

A spokesman for Hampshire police said: "We have now blocked Poles Lane to other vehicles and are concentrating on planning a peaceful eviction." Up to 120 riot police were on standby from Thames Valley, Wiltshire, Surrey and Sussex. The Hampshire force said that it was aware of the irony in asking for help from its neighbours when the likely outcome was that the travellers would camp in an adjoining county.

Scores of police manned roadblocks during the weekend to prevent the travellers from congregating at their chosen site on Bramshot Common, near Liphook. The travellers opted instead to hold their festival outside the exclusion zone and amassed without interference from the police. The seizure of equipment, including a large generator, prevented a big festival site from developing. The heavy overnight rain also played a part.

Michael Colvin, Conservative MP for Romsey and Waterside, visited the Otterbourne site yesterday and said that he would press the home secretary to establish festival sites, possibly on defunct military bases. "The fact that this is taking place is deplorable," he said. "The people here are showing a complete contempt for the law. What makes it worse is that they have chosen to set up close to houses which have made the lives of other people a misery."

The bill for policing the travellers will be met by ratepayers. Yesterday, it was announced that police in the West Country spent more than £700,000 in three weeks monitoring, moving and evicting travellers.

Robin Hobbs, chairman of the Avon and Somerset branch of the Police Federation, said that the cost shared by his force, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire and Devon and Cornwall to pay for more than 25,000 extra man-hours illustrated the need for a change in the law.

"This is lawlessness on a huge scale and we need a rapid change in the law if we are to do anything about it. The government needs to act quickly to make sure we have adequate legislation to deal with the problem more firmly in future."

"There is very little we can do to stop travellers settling on private land, apart from blocking them with lines of police officers. This is a huge waste of police time and resources which could be better spent elsewhere."

"We are dealing with cases of mass disobedience and with people who have no respect for the law. We have seen an alarming change in the trend recently, with more and more illegal gatherings. This means the bills for policing are going up each year and it is money the police simply cannot afford."

David Nicholson, Conservative MP for Taunton, Somerset, also urged the government to take swift action. "In the light of such disturbing figures, I shall urge the government to urgently review the law relating to the movement of New Age travellers and the holding of mass parties," he said. "Taxpayers should not have to finance the policing of mass invasions and parties which cause chaos."



Camp followers: travellers at Otterbourne, where up to £1 million of damage was caused when an incineration plant was set on fire

## Party faithful blame outsiders for £1m rampage

NEW AGE travellers have blamed fellow ravers at an illegal "torpedo town" festival in Hampshire for setting alight a waste incinerator plant early yesterday morning, causing estimated damage of up to £1 million. Some travellers vowed that in future they would police their own events and keep ravers out.

Police said that there was no doubt the fire, which swept through an office building at the entrance to Hampshire County Council's waste incinerator plant, had been started deliberately. Extensive damage had also been done to the inside of the building. The plant control room machinery and building walls had been daubed with graffiti, windows had been smashed, toilets wrecked out and the contents of lockers scavenged. Supt Paul Baker, in charge of Hampshire police's operation at the 30-acre illegal festival site at Otterbourne, near Winchester, said:

Travellers vow they will police their own events after a waste disposal plant was set alight, Louise Hidalgo reports

"There has been wanton damage to all parts of the plant complex. We are still investigating who was responsible."

John Elkins, a council surveyor who arrived at the plant, which serves the entire county, after firemen had put out the worst of the blaze, said: "The damage is extensive and could cost anywhere from £100,000 up to a million pounds to repair. We don't yet know whether there has been any electrical damage, but the whole place has been ransacked and vandalised."

Many travellers at the site yesterday expressed their regret and anger at what had happened. One said 150 people suspected of being involved in the rampage, which is believed to have lasted

through much of the night, had been handed over to the police. Others had volunteered eyewitness statements. "It's embarrassing. It just reflects badly on the travellers when it was the townies, the ravers," said one traveller, who would give his name only as 'Rampy'.

More than a thousand ravers had arrived at the Otterbourne site, a series of large fields owned by the council and surrounded by rural farmland and residential areas. By yesterday morning most had dispersed, leaving the field scattered with the travellers' coloured wats, three-ton trucks and 40-seater buses. Music from individual sound systems pulsed across the site and many of the people on the illegal encampment looked

set to stay for another day at least.

Hampshire police said no decision had yet been made on whether the travellers would be forcibly moved on, but there was indication that an injunction would be served and the police empowered to act.

Five police vans had provided security for the fire engines when they arrived at 10am, trundling up to the plant through the collection of vehicles, many with their curtains drawn as their occupants recovered from the previous night's fire. Police said many of the travellers on the site had willingly moved their vehicles to let the fire services through and in some cases had done what they could to help to put out the fire.

Calm appeared to rule at Otterbourne later yesterday, despite pitched battles between travellers, ravers and police earlier in the weekend, when more than 12 police officers were injured, six

police vehicles were damaged and 20 people were arrested on public order charges.

However, residents forced to listen through the night to the pounding music called for permanent sites away from residential areas to be found for future festivals. "Something has to be done," said Alexandra Winter, 77, whose five-acre garden backs directly on to the illegal encampment. "The government has to find somewhere else for these people to go."

She said parts of her land had been so befouled by human excrement she and her family dared not walk on it. Fruit had been taken from her orchards and cars had been driven through parts of her land. "Your property is their property as far as they're concerned," she said. Other residents in Poles Lane in Otterbourne had stayed on vigil throughout the night to stop ravers and travellers getting on to their property.

## Girl wins £3,000 for attack by hawk

By JENNY KNIGHT

A JUDGE has awarded a five-year-old girl £3,000 damages for injuries caused when a hawk swooped on to her head and tore open her face two years ago.

Mandy Welsh was scarred when the bird of prey, with a wingspan of nearly five feet, apparently mistook the yellow pom-pom on her hat for a baby chick, its favourite food.

Mrs Heather Welsh, 25, beat the bird off with her handbag. The £1,000 female hawk, which was being exercised by its owner, Benjamin Eastlake, a railway signaller, flew at Mandy as she walked across a field.

Mandy, of Newbiggin-by-the-Sea, Northumberland, was taken to hospital for treatment to the cuts made by the bird's talons. The attack has left her with a scar nearly two inches long across her right cheek and injuries near her left eye and ear.

A county court judge awarded the child, who has been left with a fear of birds, £3,000 damages for her ordeal. The money will be put in trust until she is 18.

Mrs Welsh said Mandy was still haunted by the memory of the bird pecking at her head. "She had dreadful nightmares for a year afterwards. She is still frightened of birds, especially seagulls because they squawk, which reminds her of the noise the hawk was making," she said.

Mandy was walking behind Heather when the hawk swooped and knocked her to the ground. Heather said: "I heard Mandy scream and turned round to see the bird pecking at her face."

"It had dragged her off the path into the grass. I ran over and started hitting it with my handbag. My elder daughter Claire was screaming and crying. I heard a whistle and the bird flew off into a tree near by. Mandy's face was covered in blood. Then the owner came running over. He seemed stunned."

After the hearing at Morpeth, Northumberland, the hawk's owner, Mr Eastlake, 45, of Ashington, Northumberland, said: "The hawk mistook the pom-pom on the little girl's hat for food, a baby chick. The child was badly shocked."

### THE WEEK AHEAD

Today: Credit figures for June. Government unveils proposal for one-stop service for benefit customers. British Safety Council launches National Condom Week.

Tomorrow: The National Criminal Intelligence Service Football Unit relaunches its Hooligan Hotline for information on hooligans. RHS summer flower show.

Wednesday: Glorious Twelfth. Queen Beatrix and Prince Claus of the Netherlands visit Scotland. Annual appearance of the Perseids, clusters of shooting stars with unusually fiery tails.

Thursday: Unemployment figures for July. Average earnings and industrial production figures for June. Director-general of water services publishes assessment of how water bills could rise in the future.

Friday: Retail prices index. Work starts at desalination plant on Isles of Scilly, the first local authority to buy such a plant to ease drought in southern England.

Sunday: Opening of Edinburgh International Festival and Edinburgh Fringe. Seventy tall ships due to dock in Liverpool to celebrate 500th anniversary of Columbus's voyage to America.

## Italian powerboat smashes Atlantic record by 21 hours

AN ITALIAN powerboat has shattered the Blue Riband transatlantic record by more than 21 hours, completing the crossing in 58 hours, 34 minutes and four seconds.

The 222ft *Destriero*, backed by the Aga Khan and costing more than £40 million, left New York on Thursday and passed the finishing point at Bishop's Rock at 5.14am yesterday. The previous record of 79 hours 54 minutes was set by the catamaran *Hoverspeed Great Britain* in 1990. It retains the coveted Hales Trophy, better known as the Blue Riband, since it was classed as a commercial vessel.

*Destriero* is classed as a yacht by the trophy's trustees and was not eligible for the trophy. Instead, the sponsors, the Italian yacht club Costa Smeralda, will receive the Virgin Atlantic Challenge Trophy awarded by Richard Branson, the entrepreneur and adventurer. He successfully completed the crossing in 1986 with his powerboat *Virgin Atlantic Challenger*, but it later sank after hitting an object in the sea. Mr



*Destriero*: an average speed of 53.09 knots

Branson's second attempt in another boat set a record of 80 hours 31 minutes, but the powerboat was ruled ineligible for the Blue Riband.

The Aga Khan, president of the Italian challenge, was on St Mary's, the largest of the Isles of Scilly, to welcome the boat. Italian flags flew in the streets of Hugh Town.

*Destriero* took a longer route along the 40th parallel to take advantage of the Gulf Stream. During its non-stop run, it used 700 gallons of fuel, travelling at an average of 53.09 knots for the 3,105-mile journey. The huge powerboat is 15 times more powerful than the *Virgin Atlantic Challenger* and was a breakthrough in design.

After presenting the trophy, Mr Branson said: "It was wonderful to hand over the trophy, but sad to see it sail away from Britain again. I hope someone in Britain comes forward to bring it back. I'm afraid this time it won't be me—I think I'll play the elder statesman in future."

The Blue Riband for the transatlantic crossing began in the early 19th century. The name was based on the blue insignia of the Order of the Garter. One of the first holders was the paddle steamer *Great Britain*, which crossed from Bristol to New York in 15 days in 1838. The Hales Trophy was first presented in 1935 by Harold K. Hales, MP for Hanley.

## Allan's tell-all phone lines are cut off

FROM RAY KENNEDY, JOHANNESBURG

JANI Allan, the former South African journalist who faces bills of £300,000 after her unsuccessful libel case against Channel 4, has been attempting to tell her side of the story, at a price, to anybody in South Africa who cares to telephone her.

Advertisements in Johannesburg newspapers at the weekend listed five 087 premium rate numbers—the same as 0986 numbers in Britain—on which, for the equivalent of £1.10 a minute, callers could phone her "for the truth... what the papers won't tell you about".

Miss Allan, who said in an interview published in Britain on Sunday that she felt "raped and humiliated" after losing her case, complaining that the most intimate aspects of her personal life had been made public property, offers her opinion of Linda Shaw, one of the witnesses who gave evidence for the

television station on "Line One". Miss Shaw, Miss Allan's former flatmate and colleague on the South African *Sunday Times*, said that she saw a naked male bottom rising and falling over a prostitute Miss Allan through her bedroom keyhole. On the telephone line, Miss Allan repeats allegations made in court about Miss Shaw's lifestyle.

On other lines she "reveals all" about Eugene Terre Blanche, the leader of the far-right Afrikaner Resistance Movement with whom she denied an affair, discusses Charlene Burger, another Channel 4 witness, and talks about Mr Cornelius Smit, former deputy of the AWB, Miss Allan promises to talk about "dirty tricks" and politics behind the court case.

But the three lines dealing with Miss Shaw, Miss Burger and Mr Smit were immediately suspended after

representations were made to a recently-appointed ombudsman for the 087 service who ordered that their content should be radically revised.

Before the Linda Shaw line was closed down Miss Allan enlarged on the allegations she made in court about her sex and working life. In addition to claims about Miss Burger's personal life, Miss Allan spoke of her political affiliations.

Miss Burger said that she had contacted the ombudsman to have the lines suspended because "I was concerned about Linda and myself".

Last night an edited version of the Channel 4 documentary, *The Leader, The Driver and the Driver's Wife*, which Miss Allan unsuccessfully alleged had defamed her, was shown on an encoded South African television network. Meanwhile,

Miss Shaw described in the Johannesburg *Sunday Times* yesterday how she felt about her one-time friend and colleague. She wrote: "She could have been one of the most memorable women of our time."

"But the years have taken their toll. Her magnetism's still there... her ever-present team of admirers never leave her side."

"The names may have changed and the ages are lower than I remember but they are still there," she added.

The 087 service was introduced into South Africa last year. The post office service in South Africa has been inundated with complaints about abnormally high telephone bills and has threatened to withdraw the licence for the service.

Great white taboo, L&T section, page 4

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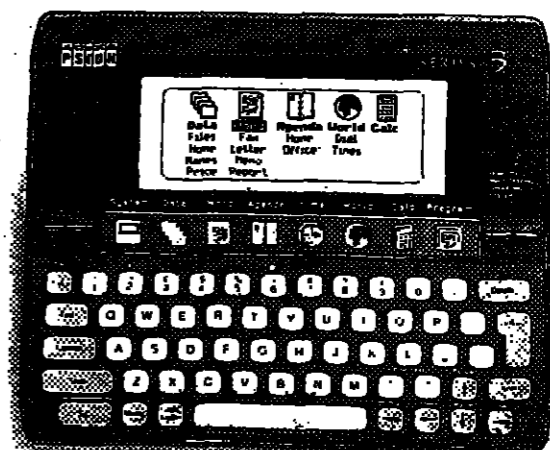
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## Heritage properties earn more money from fewer tourists

By DAVID YOUNG

FEWER tourists visited England's historic properties last year, but they spent more, according to the latest survey by the English Tourist Board, which shows that 68 million visitors spent a total of £166 million, 8 per cent more than in 1990.

However, top tourist attractions such as the Tower of London, Windsor Castle and Stratford-on-Avon are all feeling the recession.

The Tower had 16 per cent fewer visitors last year, Windsor Castle 27 per cent fewer and Stratford 14 per cent, the board reported. Numbers also fell at the Roman Baths in Bath, at Stonehenge, Tower Bridge, Hampton Court Palace, Leeds and Hever castles in Kent and Beaulieu, Hampshire.

Altogether, the top historic attractions charging admission had 8 per cent fewer visitors in 1991 compared with the previous year. If properties where admission is free are included, the de-

cline in visitors was 4 per cent.

The Tower of London, traditionally the most popular admission-charging historic property, saw its visitors decline from almost 2.3 million in 1990 to 1.9 million last year. The state apartments at Windsor had an even more spectacular drop, from 855,000 to 627,000.

Some attractions bucked the trend. HMS Victory at Portsmouth, Nelson's flagship at the Battle of Trafalgar, received 18 per cent more visitors last year than in 1990.

Chatsworth House in Derbyshire (up 9), the Cutty Sark at Greenwich (up 6) and Dover Castle (up 2) enjoyed a good 1991.

Nearly 200 historic properties mentioned unfavourable factors during 1991 with most (35 per cent) quoting the recession. Other factors included the Gulf war (13 per cent), fewer American visitors (8), shorter opening hours (8), fewer events (8), less favourable weather (7) and increases in admission charges (4).

Northumbria had the fastest growth rate among English regions for the third year running with admissions to historic properties up 7 per cent. Aston Hall, owned by Birmingham City Council, recorded the largest increase with 45 per cent more visitors last year than in 1990.

Nearly half the historic properties in England which attract more than 200,000 visitors are cathedrals and churches. Westminster Abbey, York Minster and Canterbury Cathedral are the most popular with more than two million visitors each.

John East, chief executive of the English Tourist Board, said: "There is still a tremendous market for England's rich heritage. It has long been a major draw and its conservation is essential if we are to maintain our vital earnings from tourism."



Net profit: Kim Milsom fishing for the big prize at a competition on the River Adur, near Bramber, West Sussex, on Saturday

## Angler quits job to fish for cash

By A STAFF REPORTER

AN ANGLER with hopes of representing his country has given up his job to become a professional fisherman. Kim Milsom is likely to be followed by many others over the next few years as match angling becomes an increasingly lucrative sport.

Mr Milsom, 33, of Cirencester, Gloucestershire, is recognised as one of England's leading coarse match anglers. In giving up his job with a furniture manufacturer, he will be hoping to emulate England's world coarse fishing champion, Bob Nudd, who is estimated to earn more than £25,000 from angling.

He has won more than £2,000 since the season started on June 16. There are several events a year where the winner's purse is more than £1,000.

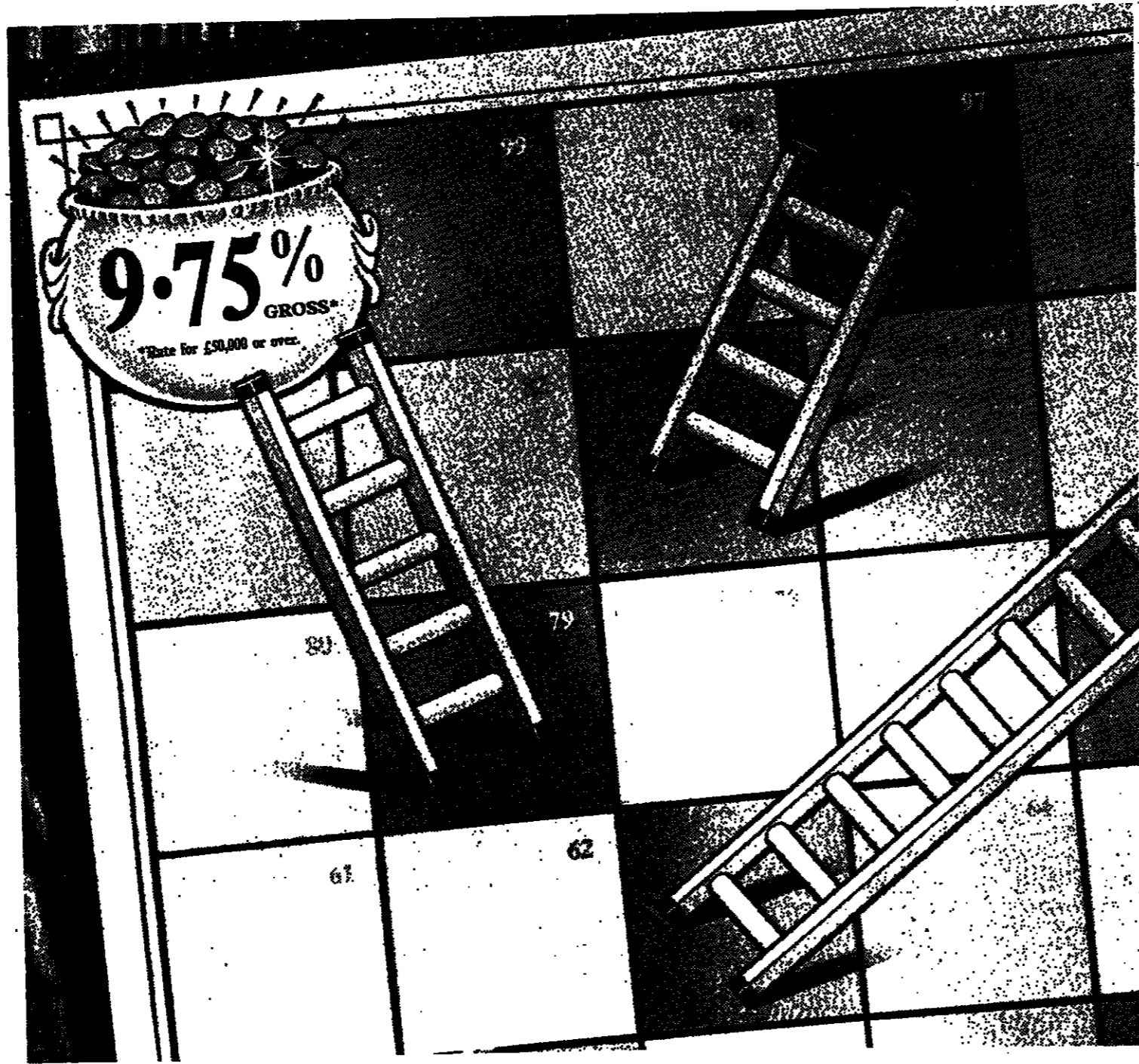
Mr Milsom says that his decision is motivated by a desire to make the full Eng-

land angling team. "I've always wanted to represent my country in the sport I love. I'm not doing it for the money, but angling is a multi-million-pound business and any cash that comes my way will be welcome."

He travels about 20,000 miles a year and spends £50 a week on bait. He says: "I realise I'm taking a big financial risk, but sacrifices have to be made if you're to reach the top of your sport."

Mr Milsom fishes for Essex County, which won the year's top team event a few weeks ago. The team is led by Peter Clapperton, a millionaire who paid soccer-style transfer fees earlier this year to lure top anglers, including Mr Milsom, from rival teams. Mr Clapperton, a director of a fishing groundbait firm, said: "Match angling needs total dedication, and I can see more anglers turning professional in the next few years."

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## Nature books in to holiday hideaway

John Young heads for the forest to find a thriving holiday village in the third of *The Times* series on tourist resorts

ELVEDEN Forest holiday village, just off the A11 on the border of Suffolk and Norfolk, comes as something of a surprise. That is both because it is remarkably unintrusive — so much so that even local people are barely aware of its existence — and because it does not conform to any preconceived idea of a large-scale tourist development.

Opened in August 1989, it is the second such development by Center Parcs, originally a Dutch company but now owned by Scottish & Newcastle Breweries. The first village was opened in Sherwood Forest two years earlier, and last week the government approved a third, at Longleat Park, in Wiltshire.

Elveden occupies about 400 acres of conifer forest which was formerly part of the estate of the Earl of Iveagh, head of the Guinness brewing family. Among the trees the company has built a self-contained community of some 700 villas, with its own shops, restaurants, church, medical centre, children's playground and indoor and outdoor sports facilities.

It is about as far removed from the traditional British seaside resort or holiday camp as could be imagined.

There are no funfairs or amusement arcades, no loud music or uniformed attendants urging visitors to enjoy themselves. Cars are directed to a central park, after which travel within the complex is by bicycle or on foot.

Peter Moore, Center Parcs' managing director, emphasises that there is no obligation to participate, but all the facilities, except swimming, cost extra, and the active family should allow for a substantial daily expenditure. A well-stocked supermarket provides for self-catering, but the restaurants and bars are not for

the budget-minded. "We make no pretence to being cheap," Mr Moore said. "We are unapologetically catering for a discerning market."

"Last year both our villages operated all year round at 98 per cent capacity. Even during a boom that would be remarkable. In a recession it's astonishing." But the company's developments have, he says, suffered from misconception and misrepresentation. "People have accused us of destroying the forest, and have even suggested that we planned to enclose the whole area in a huge plastic dome. As if we could build a 400-acre dome. I ask you."

The total cost of the development to date is some £85 million. The work has involved extensive environmental improvements, including the planting of thousands of native tree species and the creation of more than five miles of watercourses, ponds and reed marshes. Birds, plants and insects have returned to an area formerly all but devoid of wildlife, and both English Nature and the Countryside Commission are enthusiastic. If Elveden is the future of holiday-making in Britain, it is a future that seems to work.

ELVEDEN

Area: about 400 acres. Rates: Villas from £151 two-bed mid-week December, to £861 four-bed full week mid-June or Christmas. All meals and sports facilities extra except swimming. Facilities: 22 outdoor, 16 indoor sports. Health spa, shops, restaurants, bars. Forest walks, and wildlife reserve. Nearby attractions: historic cities of Norwich and Cambridge, many attractive villages, Norfolk Broads. Newmarket races.

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## Keen guns draw an off-season bead on grouse made of clay

With the Glorious Twelfth a couple of days away, grouse shooters are already getting their eye in, Ronald Faux writes

THE guns are out on the moors above Ilkley, West Yorkshire, a few days ahead of the Glorious Twelfth, the official start to the grouse-shooting season. The gleam of barrels raised towards a grey sky mark the line of nine butts, small barricades of rock and heather raised against the birds' line of flight.

When they come, the coveys speed in all directions, curving high and low across the heather. Barbed backstiffen with concentration, barrels spit shot, and gunsmoke drifts on the wind. Some of the prey streak to freedom; most disappear in a small black cloud. But there is nothing that a gun could get its mouth around or an animal-rights enthusiast denounce. These "grouse" are made of clay.

Neil Cattanch, gamekeeper on Lord Rosebery's estate and an international clay pigeon shot, has devised a surrogate grouse beat on a stretch of moor made redundant to shooting parties by commercial forestry. Every detail of a day on the moors is rehearsed and replicated, from the etiquette designed to avoid shooters blasting one another to the chilled wine and caviar in a luncheon hamper.

There are no beaters, only a solitary helper crouched in the heather some distance away setting off a series of electronic traps, adapted



Sky's the limit: Percy Dachter of Holland & Holland gunmakers examines the barrel of a 12-bore shotgun. A day on the moors remains an expensive sport

from clay-pigeon shoots, with some days aerodynamically designed to copy the unpredictable flight of a red grouse. The machines hurt up to 500 yards in a half-hour's drive, a vast improvement on what nature is apt to provide. The exercise sharpens a shooter's eye and keeps reflexes tuned during the six-month closed period between partridge and grouse

seasons. Mr Cattanch says: "There is all the tension, excitement and challenge of a real drive without the killing some people object to."

Mr Cattanch was born on the estate and followed his father, Jimmy, as gamekeeper. The Bow Beat, which invariably produced a bag of 30 brace or more, was created by Jimmy but as a tide of Norway and sitka spruce

spread across the hill its value as shooting land dropped and the butts fell derelict. "It was almost as a tribute to him that I was able to restore them and put them back into use," Mr Cattanch says.

Elsewhere other traps and springs offer simulations of bolting rabbit, springing teal, high pheasant, settling pigeon, walked up snipe and the near vertical emergency

take-off of duck from water. A freezing spring in some moorland areas, infections from ticks and worms, the trouble at Lloyds and recession may this year reduce both grouse and gun numbers. Estimates are that a line of nine guns could expect to pay between £60 and £80 a brace for a day's shooting, well below many seasons. But other costs ensure that a day

on the moors remains a preserve of the well-heeled enthusiast, as a list provided by David Winks, a director of Holland & Holland, reveals.

A day with Neil Cattanch's clay coveys gives the atmosphere of a real drive. And as the line of guns retreats to a warm fire and a drum the ironic croak of a genuine red grouse nesting safe sounds from the heather.

### THE COSTS

Shotgun: A new Aya bodock gun from Spain costs £1,400. Holland & Holland guns from £5,000 to £20,000 secondhand, new from £20,000 plus VAT.  
Security cabinet: £150.  
Licence: £12 for three years.  
Cartridges: £17 per 100.  
Tweed shooting suit: £495.  
Outer jacket: £200.  
Ear defenders (whilst): £15.  
Third party insurance: £100.  
Trained gundog: £200-£500.

## Language and business schools learn lesson of cheap Docklands rents

By RACHEL KELLY, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

NOT everyone is as reticent as London's civil servants about moving to Docklands. Students in their hundreds are now enjoying use of the blocks designed for office workers.

Language and business-school patrons are attracted by the low rents, and students are delighted by the emptiness and calm of Docklands, ideal for studying and near to future employers in the City. Docklands could yet become a new city of dreaming spires.

The first business school has just taken office space. Western International University of Phoenix, Arizona, has opened its London campus in Belvedere House, the largest building within the Glengall Bridge West development near Canary Wharf, Europe's tallest office block. A spokesman for the university, which offers degrees in business administration, finance, accounting and management and marketing, said Docklands was emerging as one of the major corporate centres, matching the City.

"We chose Glengall Bridge for its village atmosphere with its already well-established shopping and eating facilities. It has provided us with a perfect campus environment for 250 students."

The university has taken just over 20,000 sq ft of space in Docklands, attracted by the low rents. A Docklands official said: "Although we

cannot release the terms of the deal we can say that it was based upon £10 per sq ft." Rent-free periods, free fitting-out costs and the purchase of old leases are all common-place among developers anxious to woo tenants.

The arrival of Western International University follows a previous letting in the same building to the BLS language school, which teaches English as a second language. It took 5,219 sq ft. Hu-ni L'Estrange, the principle, said the area's tranquility appealed. "There are enough shops and cafes and bars here too, which are perfect for students."

The poor transport links had been much exaggerated, Mr L'Estrange said. "It's a total myth based on ignorance. The Docklands Light Railway has improved tremendously recently."

Joanna Embling, from the letting agents Healey & Baker, which arranged the Western University deal, said that many students in Docklands were from overseas, and that the proximity of the City airport was attractive. Delays in transport links into the centre of London were perhaps less pressing for them than businessmen, she added.

Other educational tenants are also considering Docklands, attracted by first-class accommodation at cheap rents. Mrs Embling said pri-

vate-sector schools offering business or language courses and public sector facilities such as the new University of East London were potential tenants. "I understand that a number of polytechnics which have become universities are looking for space. The City University also considered building student accommodation in Docklands." She said that the universities of Toronto and Nebraska were also considering a move and testing the Docklands waters.

"Foreigners do not have the same hang-ups about Docklands that we do. People from overseas love being in London. Docklands is cheap, it's near the City and first-class space is being let at prices that schools and universities could not usually afford."

The students' curriculum of business-related studies are the perfect preparation for a career in the City. Those wishing to study urban development have a ready-made example on their doorstep. Mrs Embling says that foreign businessmen consider working in London, which includes working in Docklands, an exciting introduction to their business career.

The cheap property windfall for educational establishments comes as a result of the failure of the planners' dream to create a commercial community from the ground upwards in the Docklands acres.

## Students eat at soup kitchens

By MATTHEW D'ANCONA, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

STUDENT welfare organisations are preparing for numerous cases of hardship in the second half of the long vacation, while at least two campuses have set up soup kitchens for those on the poverty line.

Volunteers at Sheffield Polytechnic have been serving free meals daily to 40 students unable to find work or, in most cases, to claim housing benefit and income support. Leeds University's union has also provided a free bowl of soup and a roll to more than 60 students a day.

Greg Lomgren, vice-president of the polytechnic's student union, said that some had debts of more than £2,000. "In Sheffield, the landlords expect full rent during the vacation but students aren't getting any benefit or doing," he said. "They'll just do anything to earn some money."

The National Union of Students has been told by ministers that the distribution of hardship funds is a matter for individual institutions and that students should not expect a sudden loosening of the purse-strings. Lorna Fitzsimons, union president, said that the government had simply passed the buck to campuses, and that the withdrawal of benefits, freezing of the grant and absence of summer work was taking its toll throughout the country.

## Magistrates failing to award full compensation to victims

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

MAGISTRATES are failing to award adequate compensation to victims of crime for personal injuries, according to a study which recommends that they be asked to justify each departure from cash guidelines.

A Home Office report found that magistrates awarded an average £187 for a broken nose, compared with a suggested figure of between £550 and £850, and many victims could receive higher awards if their cases were dealt with by the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board. Awards for personal injury by magistrates were in general far below what the board's recommendations were for being too cautious in giving compensation to victims who needed encourage-

ment to report their losses or injuries to courts, police and the Crown Prosecution Service, the study found.

The study of 3,500 cases at nine magistrates' courts found that awards of as little as £50 were sometimes seen by magistrates as providing full compensation for personal injuries. In property-related offences, while nine out of ten of the losses of up to £50 received full compensation, less than half of the cases involving sums of more than £500 won full redress.

The study also found that most benches were reluctant to compensate for sentimental value. The report said: "The courts' failure to follow guidelines in injury award and the concern of the courts to couple compensation with other fi-

nancial penalties appears to be leading to fewer and smaller awards than would be needed to compensate victims fully."

The survey found that magistrates continued to insist upon imposing fines or costs plus compensation. The report said: "Unless this resistance to imposing compensation on its own can be overcome, many will continue to receive smaller awards than the means of the offender would bear."

The report recommended that magistrates should have to explain why they have departed from guideline figures and be given better training about compensation talking precedence over fines and costs when sentencing offenders. Police should give better information to the courts.

## Psychologists will design test to weed out aggressive drivers

By DAVID YOUNG

A SERIES of questions designed to identify potentially aggressive drivers could be included in future driving tests.

The government's Driving Standards Agency is to submit proposals to the transport department on how the British driving test should be changed to bring it into line with other European countries in 1996.

In an extended test, oral questions will be replaced by a

written paper, which will include questions drawn up by psychologists.

A spokesman for the agency, which has 1,500 examiners who supervise two million tests a year, said that the new tests would be wider and more sensible. "We expect the test to expose a handful of drivers who are not mature enough to be allowed on the road, but we expect they will be in a small minority."

The British School of Mo-

toring, the country's largest driving school, had suggested that the written test should be in the form of boxes which candidates tick. A spokesman said: "We believe the test should fundamentally test a practical ability to drive."

Andrew Howard, road safety director with the AA, said: "We want assurances that good drivers will not be penalised because he or she is not so proficient at written tests."

## Cost of sea defences rises with the tides

By ALISON ROBERTS

RIISING sea levels caused by global warming will dramatically increase the frequency of floods and the cost of sea defences, according to new research.

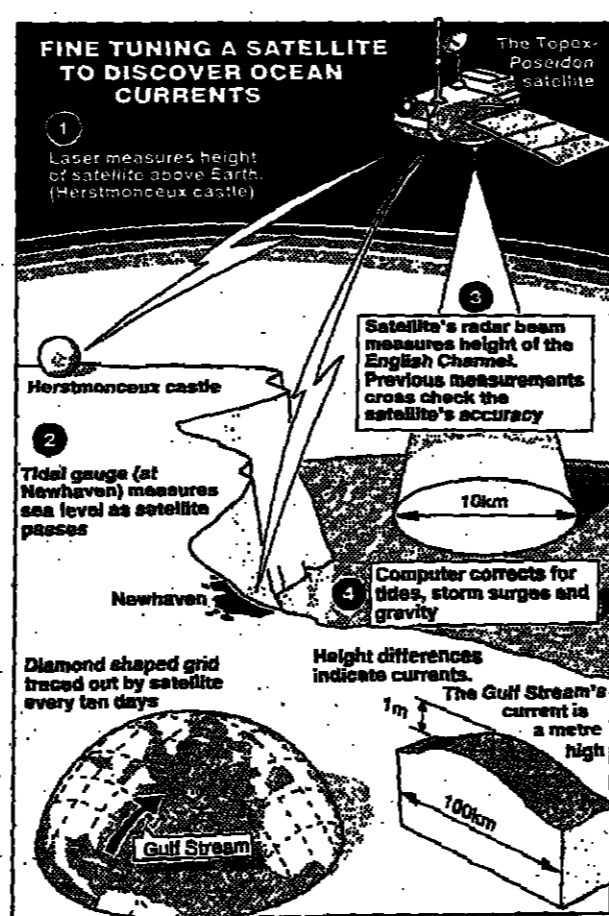
Flooding which now occurs once every 100 years in Newhaven and Southampton could occur once every three and eight years respectively. Calculations by the University of East Anglia, commissioned by Friends of the Earth, the environmental group, show that big ports in the south and east would be the most severely affected.

Researchers used the future sea-level rise, calculated by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, to work out the future likelihood of frequent flooding. Sussex coastal towns, Essex mudflats, Lancashire, the Clyde and Forth estuaries, the Wash and north Kent marshes are particularly at risk. Subsidence would

worsen the problem of land erosion. Most existing sea defences would be inadequate by 2030.

A rise in sea levels threatens the 40 per cent of British industry in coastal areas or estuaries, including 14 oil refineries, 13 coal-fired power stations and ten nuclear power stations. The financial implications of flood damage to the telecommunications network and the power grid could be huge, the researchers say.

The panel estimates that, assuming a one metre rise in sea level by 2100, it would cost an average of £116 per person in Britain to protect against flooding. A spokesman for the agriculture Ministry, which is responsible for sea defences, said: "We expect our sea defences to last for 50 years and after that we will build new ones which incorporate the allowance made for rising sea levels."



## Satellite will unravel current affairs

A LASER at Herstmonceux Castle in East Sussex is to be used to check the accuracy of a Franco-American satellite which lifts off on an Ariane rocket from the European Space Agency's launch pad at Kourou, French Guiana today on a mission to analyse the world's oceans.

Scientists hope to improve weather forecasting by using the two-and-a-half-ton Topex-Poseidon to pinpoint the mysterious pathways of the oceans' currents, which can vary from season to season and even year to year, and play a crucial role in determining the climate by shifting warm water from the equator to the poles.

By pin-pointing flows and discovering new ones scientists hope to improve dramatically the forecasting of important, short-term, changes such as those caused by El Niño. This is a warm ocean surge which recurs every seven to 14 years in the east Pacific off South America. In 1983 it caused famine in Indonesia and bush fires in Australia because of drought,

A new satellite could help scientists to anticipate some of the crueler twists of world weather, Nick Nuttall reports

rainstorms in California and destruction of Peru's anchovy harvest from the Humboldt current.

Understanding the ocean's circulation should also dramatically improve computer models attempting to forecast longer climatic change, brought about by pollution and global warming, which are influencing environmental policy and economic decisions of governments.

The information gathered by Topex-Poseidon might also help indicate the safest place to dispose of hazardous waste, help predict when icebergs cross shipping lanes and improve the fuel efficiency of ships by routing them along the fastest currents.

The satellite has a radar beam that shines in a ten-kilometre circle over surfaces of the oceans. Pressure, tem-

perature and other physical changes mean that areas of current are taller than the surrounding water. Big ones, such as the Gulf Stream or the Antarctic circumpolar current, can be as much as a metre high.

Topex-Poseidon will use a sophisticated altimeter to find these anomalies by bouncing the radar beam off the seas and measuring the time it takes for the signal to return. As the satellite passes 1,336 km over the English Channel, its height will be measured by the Herstmonceux laser, one of the most advanced in the world. At the same time readings from a tide gauge at Newhaven will be taken to measure the height of the sea at the time.

British scientists, including teams at Aston University, the James Rennell Centre for

### NEWS IN BRIEF

## Trumpeter wins right to practise

Musician Martyn Harris blew his trumpet to celebrate "a victory for amateur musicians all over Britain" after winning an appeal against a noise abatement notice.

Mr Harris, 30, of Coventry, had appealed against the notice imposed by Coventry city council banning him from practising at his semi-detached home because it upset the family next door. But after Coventry Crown Court lifted the ban, restricting his sessions to one hour a day, Mr Harris, a member of the award-winning Desford Caterpillar Band, said: "The decision establishes that making music is not a public nuisance. We have a basic right to be allowed to practise on our instruments."

Mr Harris's appeal was backed by the Musician's Union. He was awarded £2,665 costs.

## Man killed in police crash

Police have begun an enquiry into the death of a man who was struck by a patrol car answering a call for assistance from two WPCs dealing with a disturbance in Gravesend, Kent. Albert Rice, 46, of Dardford, was knocked down outside a pub late on Saturday and was pronounced dead on arrival at hospital.

## Two still held

Two people, believed to be in their late teens, were still being questioned yesterday over the murder of Helen Gorrie, 15, in Horndean, Hampshire, after magistrates allowed police to keep them in custody for an extra 27 hours. Helen's body was found nine days ago.

## Sick girl traced

A girl suffering from an anorexia-type disease who went missing with her mother and two sisters has been found and is believed to have agreed to return home for urgent treatment. An international hunt for Siobhan Conlan, 16, from Wiltshire, Cheshire, who weighs only four stone, was launched on Friday.

## Rugby trial set

Paul Sparkes of Crawley, accused of wounding Cheshire rugby captain Hugh Brown with intent to cause him grievous bodily harm, appears at Guildford Crown Court on December 7. Brown needed 50 stitches to the head after a match at Chichester.

## Sad birthday

The son of Rachel Nickell, who was murdered on Wimbledon Common three weeks ago, will be three tomorrow. Alex was found beaten and in shock, clinging to his mother, but his recovery is underway, his grandfather has said.

## Rescue woman

Meryn Woodland, 20, who works in a nursing home, has become the first woman to join the Royal National Lifeboat Institution crew stationed at Selsey, West Sussex. Her grandfather, father and uncle were all voluntary lifeboat crewmen.

## Bond winners

Winners in the weekly National Savings Premium Bond prize draw: £100,000, bond number 28FK 020944, from Southampton (value of holding, £5,724); £50,000, 25SS 927429, from Chelmsford (£4,129); £25,000, 13HK 950745, Surrey (£10,000).

Telephone callers abuse inspectors

## UN resumes hunt for weapons in Baghdad

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

UNITED NATIONS inspectors resumed the hunt for Iraq's weapons of mass destruction yesterday, well aware that any request to search a Baghdad government building could provoke a confrontation with President Saddam Hussein's regime. But their first day's work passed without incident.

After the inspectors returned to their Baghdad hotel from ten hours in the field, Nikita Smidovich, the Russian leader of the 22-member group, said: "We went where

we planned to go." He declined to say whether the team had tried to inspect any ministries.

Earlier, Mr Smidovich put a brave face on the task ahead as he and his inspectors left the hotel shortly after dawn in a long convoy of UN vehicles, some still bearing hostile Iraqi graffiti directed at their predecessors. The inspectors looked carefully under their vehicles before loading up equipment. A heavy Iraqi escort emphasised the tension surrounding the latest mission.

The team's main aim is to calculate Iraq's remaining ballistic missile capability, but Mr Smidovich said they would also try to unearth details about nuclear, biological and chemical weapons programmes. The difficulty of finding documentary evidence was pointed out by Hamed Youssef Hammadi, Iraq's information minister. He said such evidence could be easily copied on to microfilm or microfiches and the only way to find it would be to search the pockets of every Iraqi.

The work of the inspectors was delayed by a day because Iraq on Saturday chose for the first time in four years to celebrate "victory day", the anniversary of the end of its war with Iran. Saddam made no mention of Western threats of force over weapons inspections in his speech marking the occasion, but called on Iraqis to resist their enemies. At the weekend Iraqi newspapers denounced the UN inspectors as part of a worldwide conspiracy which, they asserted, would fail.

There were childish attempts at intimidation on Saturday night when some members of the UN team said they were taken by anonymous telephone callers saying, "Bush, go home. Go home you donkeys!" UN officials fear that, if an increasingly confident Iraq decides to provoke a confrontation with the West, there could be a return to the more serious forms of intimidation which were used against the previous team, whose members were abused, threatened and even attacked outside the agriculture ministry.

Saddam sent Ahmed al-Zubaidi, an undersecretary at the trade ministry, to Jordan to cajole terrified Iraqi businessmen to resume trade with Iraq despite Baghdad's brutal clampdown on merchants accused of profiteering. At least 42 traders, several from prominent Sunni Muslim families, were reported to have been executed last month. Fearing similar treatment, Iraqi merchants based in Jordan promptly halted supplies of food and medicine, allowed under the UN embargo.

## Stalin captive dreams of America

A US-born victim of the Cold war talks to Brian Killen in Petrichi village, Ukraine

MICHAEL Semko shared the fate of dozens of Americans held by Stalin's security police during the second world war. Now he wants to return to the country of his birth, which he left 70 years ago and feared he would never see again, to visit his parents' grave.

Mr Semko, 73, is the first apparent success in a Russian government enquiry into Americans, largely of Slav origin, held in the former Soviet Union. His name was on a list of 25 people who, archives show, could still be alive, many after serving long years in prison camps. He is a labourer and lives in the Ukrainian village of Petrichi. "I would like to see my parents' grave, but I would like to go back only with the whole family," he said. "We are old. We shall die soon."

Despite speaking only Polish, Mr Semko is known in the village as "Mike". "We all know Mike," said Yuri, 13. "He's an American. He stayed here because he got married." Asked what English he knew, Mr Semko rattled off: "One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten."

He said his parents were Ukrainian emigrants who had settled in the United States, where he was born. He showed a Soviet passport saying he was born in Ormad on October 3, 1919. His family, he said, left Ormad — "I think it's in Pennsylvania" — in 1923, when he was four years old. His parents left America when his father decided to look for work in the coal mines of Poland, and it was there that Mr Semko spent his childhood and youth.

During the second world war, Stalin ordered all Ukrainians living in German-occupied Poland to return to the Soviet Union. Mr Semko, his brother, John, and their stepmother obeyed. He was arrested by the Soviet secret police in 1947 after applying for an American passport in Moscow. For decades, he had no further attempts to contact American officials.

He showed a tattered 50-year-old letter from the American vice-consul reading: "Please keep the embassy in-



Seeds of hope: Michael Semko working in a grain store in Petrichi village yesterday

formed of your affairs." He never could. In 1956, the Soviet authorities arrested him on accusations of taking part in a plot to overthrow Stalin's regime and he was detained for four months in Lvov, in western Ukraine, but he was released for lack of evidence.

Security police files show that some other American citizens were given labour camp sentences of up to 15 years. "The plot was against Stalin. They accused me of

conspiracy against Stalin," he said hesitantly. He said that he had been made to sign a document testifying that he had not been beaten, although he was ill-treated in Lvov.

Mr Semko said work had always been hard to come by since his 1956 arrest, as the allegation that he was a spy had proved hard to shake off. He refused Soviet citizenship when it was offered. American television discovered him here last month, and

Mr Semko said American diplomats had visited him since then. "In 1981 they took away my birth certificate. I think they may have used it to send a spy to the United States. The KGB never returned my birth certificate," he said.

Mr Semko, who now lives with his wife Stefania, 65, and their daughter, Teodiza, 41, earns a pittance. He never intended to settle in the former Soviet Union. (Reuters)

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Punjab has militants 'on the run'

Chandigarh: The killing of another leading terrorist in Punjab marks the elimination of every separatist gunman on the "most wanted" list and for the first time in more than a decade of civil war, police have the upper hand and peace of sorts has returned to Punjab (Christopher Thomas writes).

Sikh separatists, fighting for a homeland called Khalistan, have been overwhelmed by the deployment of 61,000 police, several army divisions, thousands of paramilitary forces and the establishment of a paid network of informers. Every terrorist group is in disarray. "Militancy is on the run," K. P. S. Gill, the director-general of Punjab police, said at the weekend.

The state government that took over after election in February, dismissed by many as a mockery of democracy, has developed a measure of credibility although it is still boycotted by the Akalis, the traditional Sikh party.

### Enquiry called

Islamabad: Nawaz Sharif, the Pakistani prime minister, has appointed a new judicial commission to investigate the death of the former military president, General Muhammad Zia, in a mysterious air crash four years ago. (Reuters)

### Camps to close

Algiers: The military-backed collective presidency in Algeria has announced the progressive closure of detention camps in the Sahara desert holding up to 3,000 supporters of the banned Muslim fundamentalist front. (Reuters)

### Seeking peace

Nairobi: A UN mission assessing prospects for restoring order in Somalia flew to Kisumu, the country's second port, to meet fighting warlords. Hundreds of people have fled Kisumu and taken refuge in Kenya. (Reuters)

### Crash repays

Kathmandu: Representatives of five religions conducted a memorial service for the 113 victims of a Thai Airways Airbus which crashed in Nepal ten days ago. None of the passengers' bodies has so far been identified. (AP)

### Marines killed

Kuwait: Two US marines taking part in joint exercises with Kuwaiti forces were killed when their helicopter crashed near the northern border with Iraq. The cause of the crash of the Cobra helicopter was under investigation. (Reuters)

### Talks to begin

Arusha: Rwanda's Hutu government and Tutsi rebel leaders are to begin talks today in the Tanzanian capital which are expected to focus on the repatriation of refugees and integration of guerrilla forces into the army. (Reuters)

### Aids death

New York: Alison Gertz, who caught HIV the first and last time she had sex when she was 16, and who founded a self-help association, Love Heals, has died at the age of 26. She did not discover that she had AIDS until she was 22. (AFP)

### All points west

Adelaide: Australia is to spend \$4.7 million on its Indian Pacific railway service, linking Sydney with Perth, 2,700 miles away, to re-establish it as one of the world's great rail journeys. (Reuters)

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EXPERTS IN VITAMINS

## Right wing wants Bush to seize initiative with tax cut pledges

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

LEADING Republican conservatives are urging President Bush to call for deep new tax cuts at next week's party convention as a dramatic way of seizing the political initiative back from Bill Clinton, and are threatening to push for a divisive floor vote if necessary.

The group believes Mr Bush has to "reassert bold leadership on the economy" if he is to have any chance of re-election and must revive the sharp distinctions between Republican and Democratic philosophies that have won the party the last three elections.

Those distinctions have been blurred by communism's collapse and Mr Bush's breaking in 1990 of his "no new taxes" pledge. Mr Bush spent last week claiming there was a philosophical gulf "as wide as

the Grand Canyon" between himself and Mr Clinton, but without much conviction.

In a critical memo sent to Mr Bush at the weekend, Jack Kemp, the housing secretary, Newt Gingrich, the Republican House whip, Vin Weber, a campaign co-chairman and various congressmen warned the president: "It is not enough for us simply to label the Democratic ticket as big-spending liberals." Voters "won't forgive us for a lack of vision for the future" and the Houston convention had to be more than a "celebration of the status quo".

They called for a "flatter, lower, simpler tax system" to boost economic growth, along with a domestic spending freeze and tight new controls on soaring entitlement programmes. They advocated

across-the-board tax cuts with the top rate reduced from 31 to 28 per cent and the gradual raising of personal thresholds from \$2,150 (\$1,120) to \$6,000.

American, Canadian and Mexican officials are expected to complete negotiations this week on a North American free-trade agreement, giving Mr Bush an accomplishment to boast of in Houston and one that puts Mr Clinton on the spot. He has portrayed himself as a new-generation, pro-market Democrat who will not pander to his party's left, but the trade union movement and many powerful congressional Democrats claim the agreement will send American jobs to Mexico and want Mr Clinton to oppose it.

Peter Riddell, page 10

## Family links Saddam to Shia's death

Controversy, outrage and allegations of foul play surrounded the burial yesterday of the spiritual leader of the world's Shia Muslims, Grand Ayatollah Abdul Qasim al-Khoei, who died at the age of 93 in southern Iraq on Saturday.

His family accused the Iraqi authorities of burying him without ceremony and in unseemly haste to prevent public outpourings of grief among the restive Shia community that rose against President Saddam Hussein after the Gulf war. His grandson voiced the suspicion that the Iraqi president had the grand ayatollah killed. "It's quite possible there was foul play," said Yousif al-Khoei, speaking from exile in London. "They rushed the burial through so no evidence would show up. No doctor was allowed to examine him before he was buried. When we spoke to him on Friday, he was fine. Then, three hours before he

### Relatives suspect the hand of Baghdad in the demise of an uncompliant ayatollah, writes Michael Theodoulou

died on Saturday, it was impossible to get through to him on the phone."

Leading Shias from the region were denied the chance to pay their last respects and many of the ayatollah's relatives, including his youngest son, are in Iraqi jails. Three other sons in exile did not even have time to decide whether they would dare return for the funeral which took place shortly before dawn.

Iraq, which declared three days of official mourning for the man whose religious learning was accepted as far outstriking even that of the late Ayatollah Khomeini, said the Iraqi authorities had imposed a curfew on the holy city of Najaf. Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah

Ali Khamenei, said that the grand ayatollah's death was a "great catastrophe". He said Ayatollah al-Khoei was the "pivot" of last year's crushed Shia revolt and accused Baghdad of "tormenting" him since.

Ayatollah al-Khoei collapsed and died on Saturday as he was preparing for afternoon prayers in his home near Najaf, where he had lived under virtual house arrest since last year's uprising. He had a heart pacemaker fitted last month and his family said his health was improving.

Southern Iraq has remained restive since last year's uprising, and Saddam's forces recently launched a concerted offen-

sive against Shia rebels and refugees that has been condemned by Washington and human rights organisations. Washington has been considering the establishment of a safe haven for the Shias along the lines of that set up last year for the Kurds in northern Iraq.

Mr Yousif al-Khoei said his grandfather had persistently resisted strong pressure from Saddam to condemn the proposals for a Shia safe haven. He declared: "His silent opposition was an embarrassment to the regime and this is one reason they wanted him out of the way at this time."

The frail, bearded ayatollah belonged to the mainstream tradition of Shia Islam and was apolitical for most of his life, unlike Ayatollah Khomeini. He had refused to give his blessing to either side in the war between Iran and Iraq.

Obituary, page 13

السؤال الأول

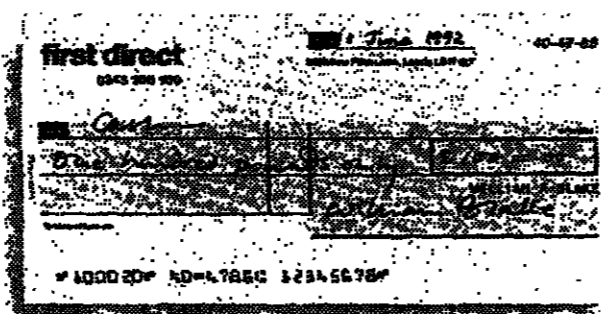
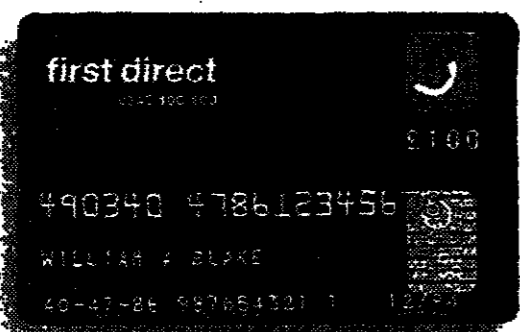
\* Calculation based on the net rate payable on a current account balance of £1,000 between 1 May 1991 and 30 April 1992. Net is the rate after the deduction of basic rate income tax. \*\*Gross is the rate before the deduction of basic rate income tax. Interest is payable monthly. We pay gross interest to customers who register as non-tax payers or non-UK residents and net to all other customers. All interest rates quoted were correct as at 10 July 1992, and are subject to variation. †Research undertaken by NOP Market Research among 1,000 randomly selected Firstdirect customers. Interviews were conducted by telephone between 22 November 1991 and 8 December 1991. Firstdirect credit facilities are subject to status. Enquirers must be aged 18 or over. For written details of our services write to Firstdirect, Freepost HK16, Leeds LS11 0YF. Firstdirect is a division of Midland Bank plc.

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## ANC leader resumes de Klerk contact

## Mandela lifts hopes for talks to restart

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

NELSON Mandela has given impetus to growing optimism that the constitutional negotiations in South Africa, which have been in suspense since the collapse of Codesa, the Convention for a Democratic South Africa, in May and the Boipatong massacre the following month, might soon be resuming.

In a speech to thousands of African National Congress supporters in the Ciskei homeland at the weekend, Mr Mandela said that he had telephoned President de Klerk in Pretoria on Friday night. It is believed to have been the first direct contact between the two for nearly three months.

The ANC leader, in a far more conciliatory tone than he has shown in public recently, said: "Both amongst the blacks as well as amongst the whites, there are people who really desire peace and economic stability. You must all help us to build this South Africa during our lifetime. If you assist us, there is no doubt

that we are on the verge of a democratic threshold in this country."

The ten-day visit to South Africa by Cyrus Vance, the former American Secretary of State, as special representative of Dr Boutros Boutros Ghali, the United Nations secretary-general, appears to have laid the foundations for a way out of the negotiations impasse. Although both sides remain cautious, the climate is beginning to appear more flexible than before the ANC's campaign of mass action which climaxed last week with a two-day national strike and marches and demonstrations throughout the country.

There appears to be a growing realisation within the government and the ANC that the continuing deadlock is getting them nowhere.

Stoffel van der Merwe, the general secretary of the ruling National party, said at the weekend that Mr Mandela's announcement that the ANC's 14 demands for renew-

ing negotiations had been trimmed to three considerably increased the prospect of a resumption of talks.

At a massive rally outside the Union Buildings, the administrative seat of the government, in Pretoria last week, Mr Mandela listed the ANC's three main demands. They are the installation of an interim government of national unity followed by an early election of a constituent assembly and practical steps to end the violence.

These three, Mr Mandela said, embodied all of the principles contained in the ANC's original 14 demands. In reaction, Mr de Klerk said that his door was always open and he was prepared to resume negotiations at once. It is certain, though, that an alternative forum to Codesa will have to be found which will be less unwieldy and more representative by bringing in the hardliners of the Pan Africanist Congress and the white right wing.

## Chinese scramble for stocks

FROM REUTERS IN SHENZHEN

CLUTCHING wads of cash and dreaming of overnight riches, hundreds of thousands of would-be capitalists from across China engulfed this southern boom town yesterday for a slim chance of playing its new stock market.

Exasperated police flailed away with electric cattle prods, bamboo canes and leather belts to try to control the huge crowds that had gathered over two days outside 302 Shenzhen banks and brokerages.

Shortly before 8am, when five million stock market lottery tickets went on sale, walls rose outside the Shenzhen branch of the Bank of China as the crush of people churned against a barricade of steel desks blocking the main doors. Only one in ten of the 100-yuan (R9.47) coupons on sale yesterday will be selected by stock market officials, giving the lucky holders the chance to buy stock later this year.

Police said one person died in a crush in the Dongmen



Market forces: a policeman bears down on people queuing in Shenzhen yesterday for share application forms

district of the Shenzhen special economic zone on Saturday night and rumours circulated that a woman had been crushed to death elsewhere on the same day.

Scores of investors overcame as the temperature reached 35°C (95°F) lay in heaps at every distribution site.

Hawkers were making small fortunes selling bottles of water and soda that people

hurling to friends and relatives still in line. Local hospitals said many people had

sought treatment for heat exhaustion but serious injuries were few. "If this is what you have to do to get rich in China, then I don't want to get rich," said Jonathan Chen, 24, a businessman from nearby Canton lured to

Shenzhen by the stock fever. Nationwide stock market fever has been fuelled by the meteoric rise in shares issued last year in Shenzhen and also in Shanghai. Investors have seen returns of several hundred per cent.

## FOR 40 YEARS, HUNDREDS OF MEN WITH SYPHILIS WERE LEFT UNTREATED.

## DOCTORS' ORDERS.

'BAD BLOOD': In 1932, four hundred black men from Alabama were chosen to receive free medical treatment for their syphilis. However, they were given no real treatment.

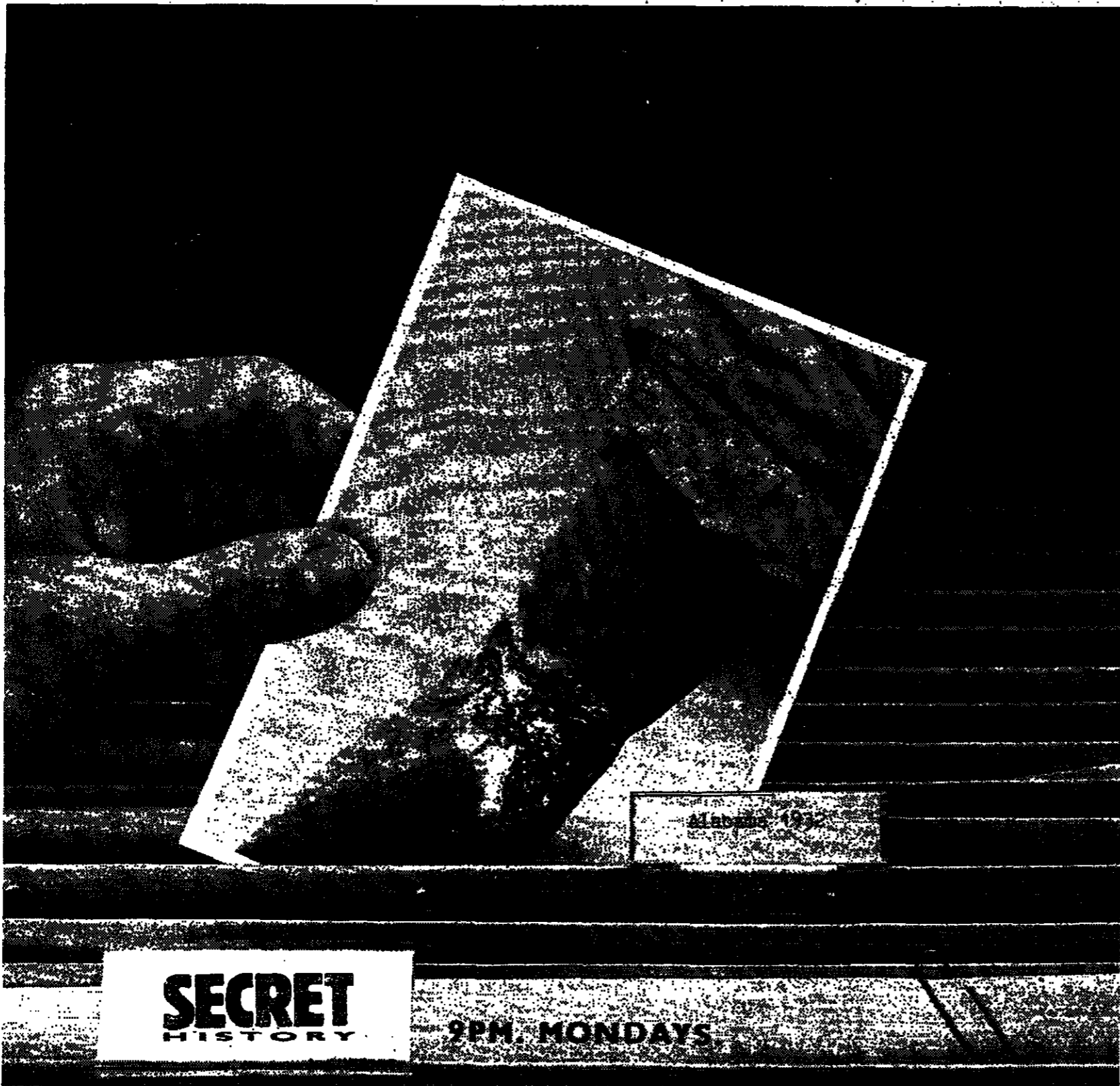
The purpose of the study was to observe the natural course of untreated syphilis in black patients.

The doctors justified any deception by claiming their work could lead to a more effective cure.

But, even after the advent of penicillin, the study did not administer this simple cure for syphilis. In fact, the experiment continued until 1972.

To this day, the US medical authorities have refused to condemn the study.

Tonight, Secret History uncovers the truth about this shocking event. We talk to surviving victims and ask how respected doctors could support an experiment so riddled with moral and ethical problems.



SECRET HISTORY

9PM MONDAYS

KEEP AN EYE ON

4

## Muslim rivals battle in Kabul

FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE IN KABUL

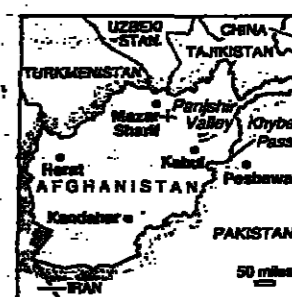
ARTILLERY battles between two rival Muslim groups raged for a second day in the west of Kabul yesterday while missiles fired by a third Mujahidin faction fell across the Afghan capital.

Dozens of rockets and artillery rounds pounded positions held by Hezb-i-Wahadat, a Shia group backed by Iran, which on Saturday resumed a long-running conflict with its Sunni rivals, the Ittihad-e-Islami. Rocket fire from the hardline Hezb-i-Islami of Gulbuddin Hekmatyar also began again in the centre of the city near the airport. Missiles forced hundreds of people to flee their homes.

Kabul radio reported that Ahmad Shah Masood, the defence minister, visited the Kart-e-Sangi area near the city's university to try to mediate a ceasefire. But fighting continued throughout the day, leaving dozens of fires blazing. Twenty-four people died in the fighting on Saturday, the radio reported. But witnesses said that the figure was probably much higher.

In yesterday's fighting, the Saudi-backed Ittihad-e-Islami repeatedly targeted a Hezb-i-Wahadat post atop a hill at the edge of the western district. Several buildings, occupied as the Wahadat's headquarters, were hit as well as a nearby hospital. On Saturday the city's main grain silo, which towers over the sprawling residential area, came under fire but appeared not to be badly damaged.

Hezb-i-Islami forces have fired hundreds of rockets on the city in the past week. On Saturday one of their missiles killed eight security guards in



the grounds of the presidential palace.

Mr Hekmatyar, who has remained outside the fractured government of Mujahidin groups, is demanding that Uzbek troops who once fought for the Soviet-backed regime should leave Kabul. The Uzbek forces, who switched allegiance to Mr Masood before the fall of the last government, maintain they are now part of the defence ministry's forces, adding that they are eager to push the Hezb-i-Islami forces back from their positions south of the city.

But the government has stuck to its position that it will negotiate with Mr Hekmatyar. Talks with him have so far made little progress and many of his top officials, who had been taking part in the administration, including Abdul Sabur Faeed, the prime minister, are no longer in Kabul. Kabul airport has remained closed because of constant firing by Mr Hekmatyar's guerrillas.

The International Committee of the Red Cross said that it had admitted 30 people to its hospital yesterday to add to more than 100 treated for injuries which were sustained the day before.

## Russians grant US doctor citizenship

President Yeltsin of Russia has granted citizenship to Arnold Lockshin, 52, an American cancer specialist who defected to Moscow with his family in 1986 claiming he was being harassed for communist sympathies. Mr Lockshin moved to Moscow in October, 1986. He abandoned a job in America as a senior cancer researcher, claiming that he and his wife Lauren had been subjected to psychological warfare and death threats. They took their three teenage children with them.

Seventy-two years after censors banned *Within Our Gates* by Oscar Micheaux, the sometimes violent, sometimes caustic look at black life has at last been shown without cuts in Chicago where it was made. The movie he wrote produced and directed was filmed in 1919, the year of the city's worst race riots. The all-white censor board banned the 1920 premiere because it considered certain scenes too inflammatory.

The former KGB chief, Vladimir Kryuchkov, 69, a leader of last August's 'hardline' coup against Mikhail Gorbachev, has been taken to hospital from the Moscow prison where he is held. Mr Kry-

uchkov gave the orders for the former Soviet president's telephones to be cut off at his Foros holiday home in the Crimea on the evening of August 18. But 48 hours later the coup collapsed in disarray.

China's paramount leader Deng Xiaoping is getting an image boost before a crucial Communist party congress this year. The *People's Daily* reports the publication of a new book of political articles that apparently elevates Deng, in his role as revolutionary thinker, to the level of former Chairman Mao Tse-tung.

Black actor Gregory Allen Williams has received an award for helping save a man's life during the Los Angeles riots in April. Williams, who recently played Martin Luther King in the play, *The Meeting*, saved a Japanese man who was beaten by a crowd.

Blake Edwards, the film director, who turned 70 on July 26, is directing his 50th film - which he says will be his last *Pink Panther* movie. *Son Of The Pink Panther*, the eighth in the series, is scheduled for release in May, 30 years after the first one starring Peter Sellers as Inspector Clouseau.

## America, Britain and France prepare to bring tough resolution on Bosnia before security council

## West close to UN deal on the use of force

By MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON AND MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE British, American and French governments were last night close to resolving differences over a United Nations resolution that would authorise the use of force to ensure the delivery of humanitarian aid to Bosnia.

Negotiations continued throughout the weekend, and officials in Washington said they hoped a tough resolution could be brought before the United Nations Security Council by mid-week in a demonstration of Western resolve. Britain in particular had objected to an American draft that it feared could provide military protection in such a way that Serbian forces might come to regard the UN peace-keeping force and relief agencies as enemies, not neutral entities, and attack them. The worst possible outcome would be for those agencies to consider the situation on the ground too dangerous and refuse to continue their operations.

The revised draft, it is expected, will still authorise "all necessary measures", but make it clear that protection must only be provided in co-operation and co-ordination with the UN secretary-general, the Red Cross and the other agencies. Nato, the Western European Union and individual nations would simultaneously be urged to begin urgent negotiations on what forces they would be prepared to contribute and in what roles, but the resolution would essentially defer the tricky problem that neither the US, nor Britain or France were willing to put in ground forces.

According to one official, the hope is that the resolution itself will deter the Serbs from interfering with relief efforts and negate the need for any use of force. It is also expected to demand immediate access to detention camps. "This is a resolution which would authorise the use of all necessary means to ensure delivery of humanitarian supplies," said Lawrence Eagleburger, the acting US Secretary of State, yesterday. He would not

rule out the possibility that protecting the relief efforts could involve air strikes on Serbian positions.

Military options for stopping the fighting in Bosnia-Herzegovina include selecting bases inside Serbia for air strikes. Punitive attacks would be aimed at forcing the regime in Belgrade to bring the former federal troops and Serbian irregulars in Bosnia under control.

This option, like many others studied in recent weeks, appears to have no political backing. The obvious targets would be air bases, ammunition dumps and logistical supply facilities that are seen to be helping the Serbian cause in Bosnia. There are 22 military air bases in the former Yugoslavia, although not all are under Serb control. The two closest to Belgrade are at Batajnica and Zemun.

However, there is no evidence that the Bosnian Serbs pay any heed to orders from Belgrade. There is no centralised command and control, and even though there is clearly a military link between the Yugoslav national army and the 56,000 former federal troops in Bosnia, threats to bomb targets across the Serbian border are unlikely to persuade the Serbs to stop fighting the Croats and Muslims. The greatest danger from air strikes would be the risk to civilians.

● **Bombing:** Voicing his outrage over what he called "the gruesome pictures from the concentration camps" in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, yesterday backed calls for the use of military force to protect humanitarian missions in the region (Patrick Moser writes). In an interview broadcast by ZDF German television, he said the international community had a duty to react in a very tough manner to what he called genocide and crimes against humanity.

Options for force, page 1  
Letters, page 11

Captive parade: Muslim and Croat prisoners held at Manjaca detention camp, 150 miles northwest of Sarajevo. The photograph was taken during a Serb-organised tour

## Muslims imprison Serbs to ensure bargaining power

Mistreating detainees does not seem to be on the Muslim agenda, writes Tim Judah

WHILE one prisoner held a candle aloft, the others gathered round to say that they did not know why they had been arrested. One man said: "They came last Thursday and Friday and took us away in trucks and cars." Locked in rooms in the office block of a cement pipe factory, at the end of a dirt track in the village of Coralic, these Serb detainees were fearful but none claimed to have been mistreated.

They are the prisoners of the mainly Muslim Bosnian authorities of Cazvin in one of the few remaining parts of the republic still loyal to, or under the nominal control of, the government in Sarajevo. A mile away, a Muslim woman resembled as she recalled her treatment at the hands of Serb jailers and a man demonstrated how a fellow prisoner slumped forward when he was shot dead by a Serb guard as he ate.

As Bosnian Serbs mount a public relations exercise, and open their prison camps to international inspection, the stories of atrocities and appalling conditions continue to leak out. But over the weekend Nikola Koljevic, a senior Bosnian Serb leader, said that the plight of Serb prisoners held by Muslims and Croats was being ignored.

During an unannounced visit to the solidly Muslim area of Cazvin, a request to visit Serb prisoners was instantly granted by the authorities. Interviews with the prisoners were permitted with the door closed and with no guards present.

Twenty-four Serb prisoners shared the same conditions as nine Bosnian Muslim soldiers

who had been arrested for various misdemeanours. In one room 12 Serb men shared seven beds. The men said that they ate the same food as their guards and that they were permitted to smoke.

Piecing together the official story and the tale told by the Serb prisoners, most of whom came from the small village of Vrelo, a police operation to disarm them two months ago had passed off successfully and, according to Muhlo Lepuzanovic, the prison governor, "without casualties". The disarmed men remained in their homes.

Over the past two weeks, however, about 45 men fled. "They violated the trust that the local authorities had in them," said Mr Lepuzanovic.

The Serbs in Coralic said that after their arrest their shoes, belts and wallets had been taken from them but that "everything was registered". Some said they feared that, because there were so few of them, they would be forgotten.

The stories of the Serbs in Coralic stand in stark contrast to those told by Muslim refugees whose freedom from nearby Serb detention centres had been secured with Serb prisoners. Asim Behren, a labourer, described how he

had been held for 15 days and had his hands tied with wire. "One day a crazed guard tried to throw a hand grenade at us but he was restrained by the others. Then he was drunk and he started calling for someone he had been at school with because he wanted to kill him. Then he just shot the man who was eating next to me in the back of the neck."

One woman, who had been in another detention centre, trembled as she described how she was hit in the face by guards and how they stamped on her feet. "My husband was next to me, he shook like a reed as they did this to me." The woman, who was exchanged for a Serb army officer, believes that her husband is still being held. "He was a teacher and many of the guards had been his pupils. Some of them had got bad marks so they made him wear a woman's wig. They beat him every day," she said.

The contrast in the stories is clear. The holding of the Serbs in Coralic would seem to be an attempt to raise the stakes in a small corner of the Bosnian war. Following the flight of the others, their detention appeared to be a clear attempt to keep a reserve of prisoners with which to bargain.

But the Muslims apparently have not matched terror with terror. It is impossible to know whether the comparatively mild treatment of the Serbs in Coralic is exceptional or not, but so far no systematic patterns of widespread human rights abuses on the Muslim and Bosnian government side seem to be emerging.

## Heavy fighting mars restart of Sarajevo relief flights

FROM ROBERT SEELY IN ZAGREB

RELIEF flights into Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia, resumed at the weekend, but the announcement was tempered by reports of heavy fighting throughout the republic.

In the southeast, Gorazde was reported to be under heavy fire after Muslim fighters tried to lift the siege of the

city of more than 60,000 inhabitants. However, Serb commanders in the area claimed that the town, which Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, intends to visit, was on the verge of falling. The Tanjug news agency reported one commander as saying: "There will

be no more waiting and hesitation. Gorazde will soon join the free cities of the region."

Twenty-three flights, some of them British, yesterday left Zagreb, the capital of Croatia, for Sarajevo. Journalists in the Bosnian capital said that it was quieter than normal at the weekend. General Sir Peter Inge, Britain's Chief of the General Staff, yesterday flew to Sarajevo and is today expected to make another visit to inspect the conditions under which United Nations servicemen are working there.

Despite last week's growing pressure for the West to intervene militarily, President Bush at the weekend reaffirmed his commitment to seek a diplomatic solution in Bosnia. He declared: "The American people must not be led into believing that there is some quick and easy military solution to the problem."

Representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Zagreb disparaged offers by Radovan Karadzic, the leader of the Serbs in Bosnia, to invite international supervisors to oversee the Serb-run detention centres.

Marjolaine Martin, the senior Red Cross official in the city, said that negotiations to visit, and in some cases revisit, camps had been under way for several weeks. In any case, she said, the Red Cross wanted all detention centres for civilians to be closed and the occupants released. "We are against the camps. Our job is not to run them," she said.

## Red Cross sets down rules for camp visits

BY MICHAEL EVANS

THREE-MAN teams from the International Committee of the Red Cross are expected to make their first visits this week to the Serb-run detention camps in Bosnia-Herzegovina from where there have been reports of systematic abuses of human rights.

In negotiations with the Serbian authorities over the weekend, Red Cross officials have laid down strict criteria to ensure that nothing is hidden from the inspection teams. The visits will not begin until all the conditions are agreed.

Pierre Gauthier, spokesman for the Red Cross in Geneva, said yesterday that there were three main criteria: that the Red Cross be granted access to all the places of detention; that "no rooms, cellars or corridors" be barred to the inspection teams; and that all detainees be personally registered and offered the chance of a private interview, "without

witnesses", to make allegations of ill treatment.

The Red Cross has so far visited ten camps in Bosnia, two run by the Serbs, two by the Muslims and six by the Croats. The findings have been kept confidential. The same confidentiality will be guaranteed initially by the Red Cross when they visit the controversial Serbian camps that have been at the centre of allegations of torture, starvation and killings.

Mr Gauthier made it clear that if Red Cross inspectors proved the existence of death camps, "we wouldn't stay mute, we'd shout out". He added: "If we found something terrible, we wouldn't be quiet."

He emphasised that the purpose of the visits was to protect the people being detained and this would not be possible if the Red Cross teams were told to leave the country.

## 'Spiderman' stalks Florence women in heat of the night

FROM PHILIP WILLAN IN ROME

IT IS unwise to leave the windows open at night in Florence this summer, despite the stifling heat and humidity. A thief, dubbed "Spiderman" by Italian newspapers, has been climbing into even the most inaccessible of bedrooms to steal loose cash and assault women, whenever he gets the chance.

The mysterious night raider has struck four times during the last month, revealing an astonishing cheek and the agility of a monkey. His most recent victim was Ambroise Gaidu, 34, a statuesque woman from Guadeloupe. Having climbed up the drainpipe to her first floor bedroom and discovered that there was no money to be stolen, the man, apparently not wearing a stitch of clothing, decided to slip into the woman's bed.

Ms Gaidu, half asleep and imagining that this was a surprise visit from her boyfriend, initially responded to his carresses. That was until her hands touched his face and found an unexpected beard. The woman's shrieks woke up the entire neighbourhood and put the in-

truder to flight. Spiderman, disappeared with the same rapidity and ease as he had arrived.

The first attack occurred on July 7 in the lapidario residential quarter. On that occasion, he climbed in through the window and sexually assaulted a middle-aged woman before running off after being disturbed by her husband. A few hours later he struck again, slipping into another woman's bed and whispering, "Will you make love to me?" into her ear. The woman's highly vocal response was enough to send him scuttling away.

The gravest attack occurred just under a week ago, when the man climbed in through the window of a fourth-floor apartment and raped a woman after half strangling her. Police were initially sceptical at the woman's account but they were convinced when they saw the man's footprints going up the building's facade on either side of the drainpipe.

Florence has been the scene of other serious attacks. Police are still hunting a man, known as the

"Florence Monster", who committed a series of grisly murders of young couples over a period of nearly two decades. Investigators have a new suspect in their sights but are moving with extreme caution after following a number of false trails in the past.

In Milan, the residents of a suburb near the San Siro soccer stadium have been terrorised by a mad crossbow man, who takes delight in firing darts into the legs and buttocks of unsuspecting citizens. Among his recent victims was a young Englishwoman who was waiting to enter the local youth hostel.

Every summer appears to produce its crop of manic crimes, throwing particular areas into hysteria and providing a macabre fascination for millions of Italian newspaper readers under their beach umbrellas.

● **Murder rate:** The Mafia committed a murder every ten hours on average last year, according to a Rome report, giving Italy the second-highest murder rate in the West after the United States. (Reuters)

## Methane explosion kills 29

Ankara: A suspected methane gas explosion in a textile factory in the western Turkish province of Tekirdag has killed at least 29 workers and injured another 86. The blast at the Corlu plant on Saturday is thought to have been caused by accumulation of methane gas in a water tank. (AFP)

## Statues purged

Budapest: Statues of communist leaders will be removed from Budapest by the end of the year. Thirty-two statues will be displayed in a remote area as a reminder of 40 years of communist rule. (AP)

## Record broken

Porto Cervo, Sardinia: The Desiro, a 220ft Italian speedboat, knocked nearly a day off the record for a powered eastbound Atlantic crossing with a time of 58 hours 34 minutes. (Reuters)

## Away game

Warsaw: A philandering Pole was surprised when he visited a brothel in Germany: the services provided came from his wife, the Polish weekly *Spotkania* reported. (AFP)

## Russia vows not to waste foreign aid

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

YEGOR Gaidar, Russia's acting prime minister, promised at the weekend that the funds released to Russia by international financial organisations last week would not be squandered. He emphasised, however, that outside help would benefit Russia only if it pursued sound economic policies.

"We have to understand," he told television viewers, "that any form of credit is only a prop for our domestic policy. If our internal policy is irresponsible, these props won't help us."

Mr Gaidar appeared to be replying to moves by less radical members of the Russian administration, including the head of the central bank, who want to approve large credits to pay the debts of state industries. Last week, another member of the Russian leadership, Andrei Nekhayev, the economics minister, accused Viktor Gerashchenko, the bank chairman, of trying to "rewrite" President Yeltsin's decree on bankruptcy, which set out procedures that would allow state enterprises to go into liquidation.

The Russian prime minister's television interview was his first response to a series of announcements last week that the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the Japanese government were all releasing the first

instalments of promised credits to Russia. The release of the credits — \$1.04 billion (\$547 million) from the IMF, \$600 million from the World Bank and \$700 million from Japan earmarked for export guarantees to Japanese firms — was a welcome sign to Russia's radicals that they still enjoyed international confidence.

Aleksandr Shokhin, the deputy prime minister, said the release of the IMF funds was primarily a political move which showed that Russia could do business with international financial organisations. It boded well, he said, for Russia's negotiations on rescheduling its \$74 billion foreign debt that are planned for the autumn.

Mr Gaidar confirmed that the IMF credit would be used to augment Russia's depleted hard currency reserves. "This money will make it possible," he said, "for us to speak more calmly with our creditors. Now, at last, we are emerging from a situation where our great country lived without foreign currency reserves."

In theory, all three credits announced last week are part of the much publicised \$24 billion aid package for Russia, although World Bank officials in Moscow admit that collecting the money is taking far longer than had been hoped. Ardy Stoujesdijk, the head of



Gaidar demanded sound economic policies

the bank's office in Moscow, told reporters that the \$600 million credit now available was the bank's first loan to Russia and its second largest ever. The bank had advanced \$1.2 billion to help Mexico with debt repayments but, he said, even this was likely to be exceeded by future loans to Russia.

Mr Stoujesdijk emphasised that the World Bank loan had been carefully structured to address the most urgent problems of the Russian economy: agriculture, health, transport and development of a private sector. The sum of \$250 million has been earmarked for imports by Russia's private sector. The money is to be

channelled through Russia's central bank and released in stages on to Moscow's weekly hard currency auctions.

In an attempt to minimise fraud and corruption, a system of reimbursement will apply: the central bank will be reimbursed by the World Bank only against receipts for imports of approved goods. These do not include alcohol, tobacco, nuclear materials or jewellery.

Of the remainder, up to \$100 million has been allocated for pharmaceutical and medical equipment. Agriculture will receive \$150 million, primarily directed to the storage and distribution sectors where, it is estimated, one-third of the harvest is lost, while sums of \$50 million will be allocated to both the transport and energy sectors to finance the purchase of urgently needed spare parts.

One aspect of assistance for the transport sector is still in dispute. The World Bank has approved money to put buses back on the road in big Russian cities and for the upgrading of port facilities, especially at St Petersburg. A Russian request that some money should be used to buy spare parts for aircraft, however, is still being examined. The World Bank wants to check the viability of Aeroflot's domestic operation.

## Reviving a stale campaign

A few Tory election tricks will not win  
Bush re-election, writes Peter Riddell

George Bush has been studying John Major's election victory as he struggles to find a strategy that will put him in contention this November. The president and the prime minister have apparently discussed the secrets of April 9 in various meetings since then. Both sides, however, may be in danger of learning only part of the lesson of the Tory victory.

The main focus is on the comparison between the Labour party and the Democrats. As I noted last month, Labour leaders who attended the Democrat convention in New York were struck by the familiarity of the issues discussed there, the search for a new role after so many defeats and the attempt to win back skilled workers who had moved to the right during the 1980s. Many of the campaign themes are the same: the recession, health provision and education, underpinned by the appeal of change for its own sake.

The central predicament for both Labour and the Democrats is the spending and tax equation. Despite the superficial attractions of John Smith's shadow budget (few lose and even if not much), Labour spent most of the election on the defensive over tax in face of a constant Tory pounding.

The Democrats and their advisers claim to have learnt the lesson, and Governor Bill Clinton's taxation

proposals would adversely affect only those earning more than \$200,000 a year, three times higher than the level at which Mr Smith would have increased people's taxes. That will not stop the Republicans attacking the Democrats as the tax-and-spend party. I look forward to hearing leading Republicans talking about a double whammy and being gobsmacked.

But while the tax issue was undoubtedly a handicap to Labour, the party's real difficulty was more fundamental. Research since the election shows that Labour appeared to many voters to be out of date and uninterested in the aspirations of those wanting to succeed in life, especially in southern England. The underlying truth is not that Labour came very near to winning, but that it is still far from victory.

Moreover, Labour never put forward a clear impression of how it would change Britain, and never showed how people would benefit from voting Labour. The party was so concerned to demonstrate that it was safe and respectable, that it never produced any excitement: the campaign was less a crusade than a management buy-out. The Democrats have partly avoided this problem with a populist campaign around a few simple themes designed to appeal to the suburbs.

But the success of Mr Clinton in the opinion polls so far has less to do with the sharpness of his own campaign — and he is still person-

### RIDDELL ON MONDAY

ally vulnerable — than with the shambles on the Republican side. It is Mr Bush's weakness that has made Mr Clinton look good more than the Democrat candidate's strength.

The Tories' campaign last spring did not, of course, look like a triumph at the time. Mr Major may have believed all the time that he was going to win, but many of his colleagues had doubts. The Tory campaign was widely criticised for making tactical mistakes and for a lack of coherence, for being too negative and for failing to present a clear positive message. In the end, that did not seem to matter, because the electorate had made a deeper judgment both about the Opposition and about the government.

The old adage about governments losing elections rather than winning them is still partly true. Governments lose the voters' confidence when they appear to run out of steam and look divided. This happened to the Tories in 1993-4, and to Labour in both 1950-1 and in 1978-9.

The Conservatives managed to avoid that trap last April. What mattered was that Mr Major gave an impression of knowing what he wanted to do, and con-

vinced people that the government still had momentum and a sense of direction. His comments in the final week of the campaign about defending the constitution and the union with Scotland may have puzzled many at the time, including several of his cabinet colleagues, but they reinforced his image as a leader who believed in something. By contrast, Mr Bush has too often appeared not to offer any reason why he should be re-elected president or what he would do with a second term. The Gulf war has proved a hollow victory, while education and environment initiatives sound like empty slogans.

Whereas Mr Major was able to appear fresh last April, Mr Bush looks stale. Mr Major was able to distance himself from the more unpopular aspects of the Thatcher years, such as the poll tax, while presenting himself as head of a new government. But Mr Bush has looked like the tail end of an old government.

So it is wrong to compare Mr Major's success last April with this November's contest. The right comparison may be between April 1992 and Mr Bush's election in November 1988. Mr Bush may find some useful tactics to use against Mr Clinton in the Tory campaign of last spring, but on their own they are unlikely to bring him success. His fate now depends on whether he still wants to win and can convey an impression of what he would do with victory.

...and moreover  
**PETER BARNARD**

And verily on the seventh day, which is now called Saturday, we made the great trek north to the ceremony known as a wedding. First for the service, conducted by the man called modern vicar in the suit of clothes known as Marks & Spencer machine washable at 40 degrees, and thereafter for the reception at the place called country club. Oh joy, Oh happiness. For gathered in the temple of the Baptists and at the place called country club and in all the places in between were the wedding gods, the Canon, the Pentax, the Nikon, masters each of the still image, together with the ultra-modern gods Sony, Hitachi and Panasonic, purveyors of the moving image from the denomination called camcorder.

And the worshippers of the gods looked through their viewfinders at the person called bride and the other person, who was called bridegroom, and saw that it was not bad at all, due allowance being made for the cloud overhead and the indifferent light filtering into the place called church. No worries, thought the controllers of the more modern gods, for I am with autofocus and auto-exposure, therefore I fear neither the vagaries of light nor the inconsiderate intrusion from the bobbing heads of those poor suckers who have come here devoid of photographic devices and seem merely interested in celebrating this joining of the two young people.

From time to time could be heard the sound of vicar speaking words from the service called marriage and the happy couple responding to same, through these interruptions were but a minor irritant. For the most part the click of shutter and the whirr of motor drive made their proper mark on the proceedings, as it was written in the great multi-lingual book called User's Manual: "Verily I say unto you that ye shall go forth and multiply."

And so it had come to pass. Worshippers of the camera and the camcorder had spread into all the corners of the Earth, making for their own generation and for generations to come a permanent record of all that occurred, from the wedding to the christening to the funeral to the arrival of the Canada Geese in the nearby wood, even unto the multiple pile-up which (by happy circumstance) would occur outside their very homes while they were polishing the great god's zoom lens or cleaning its advanced carbon fibre indestructible body, a direct descendant, so it is written, of the starship Space Shuttle.

As they wandered about the church, up and down the aisle, yea, even unto the altar, the controllers of the gods did shoo everything in sight, including each other. And as they did so, they were speculating, each to himself, whether among them there might be a controller with the ultimate in achievement, a man who had reached that height to which all of them secretly aspired, a person who had crossed the great divide

between that which is for incessant replaying in front of the family, the friends and even the passing strangers, one who had gone beyond the simple pleasure to place himself at the right hand, metaphorically speaking, of the great God Fame.

Was there here, at last, a high priest of the camcorder denomination, a man who could justly claim footage (as they were pleased to call it) which had appeared on the *Nine O'Clock News* behind the caption "amateur video"?

For verily, this was their destiny, their pinnacle. Not for nought was one of their gods called Olympus. To be present at a disaster, this was their Everest. To have the batteries charged up and the lens cover off and the videotape not yet expired, admittedly an unlikely combination of circumstances, at the moment when some great temple, such as Canary Wharf, fell down... to rush breathlessly to the place they had learned to call Telly Centre, to survive the legendary interrogation of the man called commissioner, to be carried upwards by electronic lift into the hallowed halls of the sect called News and Current Affairs, later to gather before a television set with friends, family, neighbours, the bringer of post and the talker away of dust, and to hear the words of the earth god Michael Buerk: "This remarkable film, taken by an onlooker..."

For a wedding is a beautiful thing, but it is not a bong on the News at Ten.

Richard Morrison asks whatever happened to the adage that the show must go on

## The ego is stranded

audience has actually assembled, the point of no return has already been passed. Some sort of show they must have, no matter what the crisis. Irving Berlin may have been our century's greatest corn-merchant, but he did have a point:

You get word before the show has started  
That your favourite uncle died  
Top of that, your Ma and Pa have parted;  
You're broken-hearted — but you go on!

In the theatre, opera house and concert hall, the show goes on because there are understudies. Indeed, one classic way for a young performer to break into the big time is as an understudy. The star is knocked out with, let us say, a nausea-type virus. Thousands of punters are about to lynch the programme sellers. The anguished impresario is facing ruin. In desperation he turns to the mustard-keen youngster in the chorus line and says:

"Go out and slay them, kid. You are our one chance."

The scenario of a hundred awful movies, perhaps, but it happens with surprising regularity even in supposedly "high" art forms. Most of today's top actors, opera singers, dancers and conductors can recall a lucky break that launched their international careers. One might suspect that a nausea-type virus is nature's way of telling fading stars to move over and let the new crowd in — a brutal, Darwinian culling process.

But this expedient falters when faced with an operation like Jackson's. Here is not entertainment in the ordinary sense, in which Jackson merely plays a part. If it were, it might well be possible for the show to go on with a stand-in. No, this is the reverse: an obsessively engineered global idolisation of one man, in which it is the live show that merely plays a part. The aim of a juggernaut publicity machine has been to construct an image of the performer not simply as a talented song-

and-dance man, but as a unique icon which will utterly consume all pubescent hearts exposed to it. So how could any substitute be considered as a consolation if the vision fails to appear to the children who have come like medieval pilgrims with wide-eyed faith to worship at the shrine?

Of course, superb publicists also work in the fields of classical music and theatre, all trying just as hard to cast a spell of uniqueness around their clients. The crucial difference is that these arts are still repertoire-centred. Pavarotti may be projected by his publicists as the "one and only", but the truth is that if he fell silent tomorrow, the music he sings would still be performed by plenty of others.

The likes of Madonna and Jackson, however, aim to offer what can only be called the total egocentric experience: they control every aspect of their acts, and are willing to dissolve the line where art ends and reality begins. Their acts incorporate their private lives, and vice versa.

A century ago, Richard Wagner imagined that he had invented the "total art-work" when he seized control of the words, music and staging of his operas. His contemporaries considered him a touch crazed. But compared with the totalitarian rock acts of today, Wagner's lust for control was the epitome of modesty.

The irony is that Wagner's operas are now interpreted in every way except that specified in the composer's stage directions. His "total control" has rightly been rejected as entailing creative death to his interpreters. Whereas in barely 30 years, rock music — the roots of which lie in rebellion against authority — has allowed its most famous practitioners to become obsessed with achieving absolute control.

"Obviously he's very upset," continued Jackson's vice-president after the fateful announcement. One can believe that. Where life and art are so intertwined as in this case, the implications of becoming a no-show are fairly terrifying. If it helps to restore a sense of proportion, perhaps that nausea-type virus will prove therapeutic, both for Jackson and the howling 72,000. After all, it's only showbiz.

## Still the world's outcasts

Matthew Parris on the oppression of Muslim women



There is no such country as Lamis. Amel and Leemaf are anagrams of male and female.

The laws and customs I have described are drawn from a number of places, including Algeria, Bangladesh, Bradford, Iran, Kuwait, Malaysia, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Tower Hamlets and Turkey. In some of these places, nearly all the injustices are rife; in others there are only a few. For instance, you the taxpayer have paid for community centres in Bradford with separate entrances for women.

Millions of Muslim women in scores of countries occupy positions not far removed from slavery. They are less free than black men were at the very height of apartheid in South Africa.

Her Majesty's government has a record of raising with foreign powers the grievances of its ethnic minorities, the persecution of dissidents, and political and religious oppression of every kind. But so far as I know it has never once raised with any government the question of the subjection of women.

Women don't count. They do not make a noise. Usually they lack even the confidence to complain. From birth, their subjection is so complete that they cannot imagine a different life. So we tell ourselves that they are content with their lot.

Turning a blind eye is defended, secondly, on the grounds that it is "none of our business" how people of a different culture live. But wasn't that what the Afrikaners said? Yes, but South African whites are of our own race, and

although no one quite says so, it seems that we expect better of white people. Lurking behind the tolerance of Western liberals lies an insidious racism where black-on-black cruelty is concerned.

Reform, we are told, thirdly, should come, but must come within the cultures concerned. We cannot preach. We cannot insist. This argument has been used against virtually every effort ever made by outsiders to improve the condition of others. Yet outsiders are often the first to diagnose an evil and raise the consciousness of its victims. We are part of the brotherhood of man, the Western liberal assures me when soliciting my support for increased foreign aid. If a black is sick or hungry, he is my brother. But if a country's laws treat a woman as though she

were an animal, she is not my sister, and the liberal looks away. She is only a distant cousin and part of "a very different culture", not my business.

Great reforms have four stages, of which the first and last are bafflement. At the start we are baffled by the reformers. We do not recognise the abuse complained of. We cannot understand what the fuss is about. Early crusaders meet incomprehension, not argument.

By the second stage, we have been persuaded that there is an issue to debate, and we take sides. The crusade is fiercely resisted, but the argument has begun. Then comes the triumphant phase. Those who oppose reform are forced onto the defensive, and in time the argument triumphs. Now comes the final stage, bafflement that the reform was ever resisted. How could anyone have disagreed? Surely the evil stared them in the face?

In morality as in science, every century shakes its head in disbelief at the blindness of the previous one. The age that began its forays into religious persecution shuddered at accounts of the inquisition, yet saw nothing wrong with slavery. The age which abolished slavery saw no reason for women to vote. The age which enfranchised women was not perturbed that blacks were second-class citizens.

We now acknowledge all those wrongs; but what great human injustice are we overlooking? Of what will the next century say "It was staring them in the face. Could they not see?" Or are we the first generation to have missed no great injustice? I doubt it.

We are warned by clever people not to blunder into sensitive areas. We are told that our efforts would backfire: that we are too simplistic, too early or too late. Perhaps. But another approach is to attack injustice wherever and whenever we see it. Some notable reforms have started in this way against all prudent advice — and prevailed. I submit that it is time to begin the debate concerning women and Islam.

### Genius loci

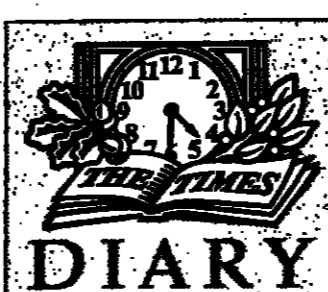
AS DUBLIN enters its third day of celebrations today after Ireland's first Olympic gold medal in 36 years, the city's politicians have found themselves ostracised from the official reception in honour of boxer Michael Carruth at the Mansion House tomorrow.

Carruth, who is flying into Dublin shortly after midnight, accompanied by silver medalist Wayne McCullough of Belfast, will be greeted by hordes of supporters in a special stand built at the airport. Tomorrow, the two will parade through the streets in an open-top bus, before the reception hosted by the city's Lord Mayor alderman Gay Mitchell.

Although the minister for sport, Michael Ailward, and a representative of the Taoiseach have been invited, Pat Hickey, president of the Olympic Council of Ireland, says other politicians will not be welcome, despite yesterday's pledge by the government of £700,000 to train competitors for the 1996 Games. "If the government wants to join in the fun, it had better start discussing contributions," he says. "It would be wrong to allow just anyone onto the bandwagon of a success won against extraordinary odds." His pointed remarks, however, are likely to be lost in the jubilation pervading the country.

The flowers in front of the Carruth house in St Peter's Road, Walkinstown, were flattened when thousands of fans gathered in the street in an orgy of celebration. Bunting and banners have been draped across the property since before the fight started, and there have been army hysteresis.

Throughout the country, day-long impromptu parties have been going on in pubs, with ever chang-



ing casts of celebrities. Even the Rex Bar on Belfast's Shankill Road "rose cheering" when Carruth won. At Carruth's local in Walkinstown last night, pints were being sold at the 1956 price of 3p in memory of the previous Olympic gold winner Ronnie Delaney, who came first in the 1,500 metres.

Carruth, who was promoted to sergeant in the Irish infantry immediately after his success, is hoping to begin training for the world military championships in Sweden next month. His wife Paula, however, has other plans. The couple missed their honeymoon as a result of the Olympics, and she is determined they will take a break in the Canary Islands.

● Sunday newspapers are not noted for staffing their offices on the day of publication, but for Yorkshire on Sunday, launched yesterday, a full turnout was unavoidable. The latest title in the Westminster Press empire had been overtaken by events, publishing a front-page offer to win a cruise on the QE2 even as passengers were being rescued from the holiday liner as it lay crippled off Martha's Vineyard, New England. The paper's Bradford offices were abuzz with activity as the newly-formed editorial team fended off countless enquiries

about their peculiar offer. "We are telling people to continue with the competition," said one staffer. "Could they not have changed the page after the first edition?" "We only had one edition," he muttered poignantly.

### Drag Queen?

THE Prince and Princess of Wales, both avid fans of stage and screen, may find their horizons broadened when they make a rare appearance together at this year's royal variety performance. After enduring much criticism in recent years for producing long and unexciting shows, the organisers have headed this year's bill with Jim Bailey, the female impersonator and illusionist. Not only will he impersonate Marilyn Monroe for the royal couple, he is also scheduled to strip in the process.

Bailey, 42, known from Carnegie Hall to Las Vegas for his impersonations of Monroe, Judy Garland, Barbara Streisand and Madonna, will appear on stage on December 7 dressed in the skimpiest of costumes, giving a rendition of "I Wanna Be Loved By You". "I am not sure what Princess Diana will think, although I know she is a great fan of the movies," says Bailey. "It may not be Prince Charles's cup of tea, though."

### Habit forming

EDITH PARCETTER, alias criminologist Ellis Peters, has extra reason to toast the 15th birthday this month of her character Brother Cadfael, a medieval monk. She has just struck a lucrative deal with Central Television to film her books. Central reluctantly parts company with the much-loved Inspector Morse next year — a final star-struck episode featuring John Gielgud and Robert Hardy will be the series' swansong — and the company hopes that Brother Cadfael will take up Morse's mantle.

Peters intends to celebrate her success on August 25 at a dinner with her agent Debbie Owen, wife of Lord Owen. Her 19th birthday, *The Holy Thief*, will also be published this month. The reclusive novelist, who usually shuns interviews, is to make her own television appearance later in the year. She will appear on the BBC's *Songs of Praise* from Shrewsbury Abbey. It was, of course, while delving into the history of the abbey that she hit upon the idea for Brother Cadfael.

● Bob Willis, the former England cricket captain, felt safer taking on the mighty West Indian pace attack than competing in matches on the village green. Graham Cochrane reveals why in the foreword to *The Rothmans Book of Village*

I'll have another pint of whatever this was



Cricket. Apparently Willis, himself a demon fast bowler, agreed to play a match at Sheepscombe. "Bob was pleased to see how much excellent beer was consumed by the team before the match. He volunteered to open the batting after his second pint. But he was hit on the head off the first ball of the game; he vowed never to play village cricket again."





## OBITUARIES

## SIR LIONEL LAMB

Sir Lionel (Henry) Lamb, KCMG, OBE, a former Ambassador to Switzerland and Chargé d'Affaires in Peking, died on July 27 aged 92. He was born on July 9, 1900.

LEO Lamb spent 30 turbulent years in China, spanning the Japanese invasion, the Korean war and the communist revolution, but the greatest personal disaster to befall him was caused by a faulty Ministry of Works stove.

While he was minister at the British Embassy in Nanking in the late 1940s, shortly before Mao Tse-tung led the Communists to power, Lamb and his wife returned home from a diplomatic dinner to find their official residence in flames. By dawn, the building had been gutted, leaving them only the dinner clothes they stood up in. The governor of Hong Kong sent Lamb a suit, and foreign diplomats in Nanking also helped out. Although the vintage champagne in the cellars could be replaced, the same was not true of Lamb's priceless collection of Chinese art and artefacts — gathered over nearly three decades from every corner of the country in which he had served. It had survived the second world war and constant travel only to perish with his home.

Though the high point of his Foreign Office career was a five-year spell as ambassador in Bern, it is as a sinologist that Lamb will be remembered. He was the son of Sir Harry Lamb, the leading For-

ford without a degree, and joined the consular service in China, chiefly because this was one of the few job vacancies.

He began as a student interpreter in Peking — then the usual way of learning the language *in situ*. After serving as a vice-consul in Szechwan, and then in Manchuria, he was a grade-two consul in Shanghai, from 1935 to 1937, and in Peking, from 1937 to 1940.

In 1940 he returned to Shanghai on promotion as superintending consul and assistant-Chinese secretary, only to be interned by the Japanese the following year. With his wife, he spent 12 months underground in an effort to escape before being freed in a mutual return of diplomats.

Lamb was then sent to the United States, where, as consul in St Paul-Minneapolis, he worked hard to improve Britain's image among the largely Anglophobic communities in the American Midwest.

Lamb was posted back to China shortly before the end of the war, as consul in the embassy at Chungking. The Diplomatic and Consular services had by then been amalgamated, opening a new range of opportunities for promotion. Few from the consular service were to take such advantage of them as did Lamb.

From Chungking, he moved as minister to Nanking, seat of the Nationalist government during the civil war. He was acting head of mission in 1949 during the Yangtze River incident, in which the British frigate HMS *Amethyst* was attacked by Communist shore batteries, suffering heavy casualties. Lamb's final posting in China was as chargé d'affaires in Peking between 1951 and 1953, when he performed a crucial role as the eyes and ears of the West during the Korean war. Nonetheless, it was a difficult time, with Anglo-Chinese relations at their worst for many years.

It was therefore with some relief that, after being knighted in 1953, he was appointed ambassador in Bern. There, he led the British delegation at the 1954 Geneva Conference on Indo-China, which formalised the partition of Vietnam.

Lamb could have moved to another post after Switzerland, but, by 1958, after his hectic career in the Far East, he had had enough and took the option of retiring slightly early. He retained his knowledge and love of Chinese culture to the end, however. While not perhaps one of the great Foreign Office sinologists, he was certainly among the most dedicated and caring.

He is survived by his wife, Jean, whom he married in 1927, and a son.



sign Office authority of his day on the Balkans and the Levant, and largely responsible for the creation of Albania. Young Lionel was born at Erzurum, Turkey, where Sir Harry was consul, and was educated at Winchester and Queen's College, Oxford.

Oxford was then full of young men taking short courses after the first world war, and Lamb, who had just been saved by the armistice from call-up, took advantage of a two-year course in Italian and French. His mother was the daughter of an Italian diplomat and he was bilingual. However, he left Ox-

## Edward Hughes

EDWARD Hunter Hughes, former foreign editor of the *Wall Street Journal*, has died in London aged 71. Born in Kentucky, Hughes gained degrees at Centre College, Kentucky, and Harvard, and served in the US Army in the second world war before join-

ing the *Journal*. He reported for it from Europe, the Middle East and Africa, and became foreign editor in 1953.

He joined *Time* in 1954, and, after posts in Africa and Germany, ran its Middle East bureau from 1958 to 1970. He then worked freelance, from London, serving, in particular, *Reader's Digest*.

## Jeff Porcaro

JEFF Porcaro, drummer in the rock band Toto, has died aged 38 of a heart attack after an apparent allergic reaction to pesticides he was using in his garden in Los Angeles.

Porcaro, his brother Steve, and four others formed Toto and released its first album in 1977. Hits included "Rosanna" in 1982. Toto won six Grammy awards in 1983. Porcaro leaves a widow, Susan, and three sons.

## Nature notes

## Foliage and fledglings

THE thick foliage is full of bird families, and the thin, insistent calls of the fledglings. In hawthorns and willows, there are willow warblers, garden warblers, and blackcaps. In taller trees, especially the limes, there are chaffinches, great tits and spotted flycatchers. Occasionally they fly out in pursuit of an insect, but mostly they forage in the dark depths of the branches.

The last of the summer singers are yellowhammers, wrens and woodpeckers. The woodpeckers have a practically invariable song of short and long cooing notes, which could be represented as "take two books with you, take two books with you, do!" — the "two books" being the most emphatic notes.

Hogweed flowers have turned into large heads of brown, flat seeds, and their place has been taken by the



somewhat similar wild angelica. But the angelica flowerheads are rounder, their stalks are pinker, and the leaves start like white, bowls cupping the stem, then turn into frothy, fern-like outgrowths. Cornflower flowers are fading, but the leaves have grown into big, dark green fountains. White melilot, or Bokhara clover, is in bloom here, and there on roadsides: its flowers are arranged in a ladder, like those of the common melilot, but they are creamy white, not yellow.

DJM

## GRAND AYATOLLAH KHOEI

Ayatollah Seyed Abul-Qasim al-Khoei, the spiritual leader of a majority of Shia Muslims, died in Kurfah, Iraq, on August 8 aged 93. He was born in 1899 in Khol, Iranian Azerbaijan.



GRAND Ayatollah Khoei was the most prominent Object of Emulation in the world of Shia Islam for the past three decades. As such, his writings and conduct were the standard on which Shias were supposed to model their own lives. He was, however, a traditional figure, firmly believing in the need for the clergy not to become preoccupied with temporal matters. Though activists inclined towards his activist rival, the late Ayatollah Khomeini, a majority of Shias are believed to have preferred his "quietist" ways. At the end of his life, such was his importance that the leaders of both Iran and Iraq deemed it politically necessary to declare three days of national mourning to mark his death.

He was born into a family of provincial clerics in Khol, in Iranian Azerbaijan near the old Russian border. At the age of 13, after a traditional education in Persian poetry and Arabic religious texts, he was sent to the holy city of Najaf in Iraq, where he spent the rest of his life. His subsequent education consisted of attending the lectures of prominent Shia clerics associated with the shrine of Ali, the first imam of Shiism, until such time as he was himself prominent enough to earn his livelihood from donations contributed by his personal followers.

In the 1960s his fame as a teacher and sage spread outside Iraq and he was able to set up theological colleges and charitable foundations in a number of countries which, in return, attracted more followers and students to his door. In

1971, when the Absolute Object of Emulation of the time, Grand Ayatollah Mohsen al-Hallaj, died after some persecution at the hand of Saddam Hussein, the rising strongman of Iraq, Khoei was acclaimed, his successor by a majority of the Shias.

The acclamation, however, was not universal and Khoei found a rival in Khomeini. The latter was, altogether, of another type of Muslim cleric. Unlike traditional, quietist Shias, who believed that the Saviour, the absent Twelfth

Imam, would only save the world if corruption became widespread, Khomeini believed in political activism to achieve justice. Thus Khoei never became an "absolute object of emulation", but the majority spiritual leader, while the young tended to graduate towards Khomeini.

During the latter's exile in Najaf from 1965 to 1978, the two men hardly met and were believed to have little warm feeling for one another. However, the traditional code of conduct between Shia clerics

prevented them from criticising each other in public.

In November 1978 Iran's Queen Farah, travelled to Najaf to ask Khoei to make a gesture of support towards her husband's incerting regime. But, though Khoei did receive her he refused to intervene.

His policy of non-intervention continued with regard to the government of Saddam Hussein also, which was, in itself, regarded as a sign of disapproval. This was at a time when Saddam spent large amounts of money on Shia shrines and institutions to woo the majority faith of his country. However, the policy was accompanied by brutality towards dissident clerics, as exemplified by the executions of the ayatollahs Mohammad Bager al-Sadr and Mehdi al-Hakim in 1980 and 1983 respectively.

Khoei was subsequently placed under close police surveillance until, at the height of Shia uprising in central and southern Iraq in the spring of 1991 after the last Gulf War, he appealed to the world to aid the Shias. The government ordered the arrest of over one hundred members of his family and staff and took him to a Baghdad television studio, where he was seen to be receiving and praising the ruler. His spokesman said that his relatives would have otherwise died. His eldest son and many members of his staff are still missing.

The Ayatollah does not leave an obvious successor among the Shia clerics of Iraq, whose numbers are thought to have been reduced by the government from some 8,000 in 1970 to about 50 today. His charitable foundations are now likely to be wooed by the rulers of Iran while the foundations will search for another grand cleric in Khoei's quietist mould. The bulk of supporters live in Iraq, Pakistan, India, Afghanistan, Lebanon and east Africa.

## AMJAD KHAN

Amjad Khan, actor, died in Bombay on July 27 aged 48. He was born there on October 21, 1943.



As Nabob Awadh in Ray's film *The Chess Players*

IN THE silver-screen city of Bombay, insecurity is the norm, treachery a golden rule and luck the only secret of success.

Amjad Khan's moment of luck arrived in 1975 with Ramesh Sippy's film *Sholay*, the greatest blockbuster in the history of Indian cinema. Amjad played the role of a killer bandit, Gabbar Singh. Never before had Indian audiences seen such graphic violence. The fascinating character of Gabbar Singh gave a new meaning to the concept of villainy in Indian films: the villain was no longer a gentleman with wicked intentions plotting against a gentle romantic hero and vying for the love of the heroine by foul means. The new gun-wielding villain was vicious and terrifying, with no pretensions to being part of a civilised — or corrupt — society.

Gabbar Singh was an instant hit. *Sholay* ran for five years in Bombay and still shows to full houses. It influenced the speech mannerisms of an entire generation; everywhere in India, young men began to copy Gabbar Singh's catchphrases.

A generation later the image of Gabbar Singh still haunts audiences. More importantly, it continued to haunt its creator. After *Sholay*, Amjad Khan was flooded with

offers. He became the highest-paid villain in the history of Indian cinema and acted in more than 250 films. Every producer wanted him to be Gabbar again, and audiences, too, refused to accept anything else. It was extremely frustrating for him.

It required the genius of Sayajit Ray to emancipate

Amjad Khan from Gabbar Singh. In Ray's film *The Chess Players*, Amjad Khan played the role of the enigmatic Nabob Awadh, who composed poetry, danced with his courtesans and kept a harem the size of a regiment. For Gabbar's fans, it was a shocking reversal of image. Their macho man was playing an

effeminate Nabob. In Bihar state, some cinemas were stoned.

Amjad Khan's father, Jagan (Zakaria Khan) was a well-known actor. Amjad called himself a "Bombay boy". Life in school and college was quite stormy and yet he managed a first-class MA in philosophy. He loved reading, and even wrote his own "very private" poems.

He started as a stage actor and, even after the success of *Sholay*, the stage remained his first love. Within the film industry, he campaigned for the rights of actors and technicians, trying to set some basic rules of behaviour in an industry where obscure young men find fame overnight and shining superstars quickly fade away. At the time of his death, he was president of the executive committee of India's Cine Artists Association.

A car accident resulted in a metabolic imbalance, putting enormous weight on Amjad's massive frame. In each successive film he looked a stone heavier. In contrast to his screen image, in real life he was a friend with infectious laughter and disarming wit.

The only drink he ever liked was tea and he always travelled with a tea-maker. A roadside tea bar was once unable to serve him his favourite drink because its milk had run out. Next day, there was a large buffalo standing at the door, to ensure an unending supply, a surprise gift from a friend, the noble villain Amjad Khan.

## ERIC ROBERTS

Eric Kirby Roberts, former chairman of Express Dairy, died on July 30 aged 84. He was born on January 20, 1908.

ERIC Roberts and his family were pioneers in the modern system of milk distribution in this country, and, after the second world war, he played an important part in spreading the supermarket concept. Roberts was born over the family dairy at Northwood, Middlesex. However, his was not a rags-to-riches story. His father was already a successful large-scale farmer on the Hertfordshire-Essex border who diversified into the then infant trade of milk retailing. Eric and his younger brothers, John and Norman, were educated at Bishops Stortford College. After a short period on the family farm, Roberts went on to Oxford Agricultural Institute, where he was awarded a gold medal as top pupil in all subjects except, ironically, dairying.

When he left the institute at 17 he lived in lodgings, looking after two of the family farms and running the retail business. He would rise at 4.30am, milk the cows, bottle and deliver the milk and return to begin farm work.

By 1930 the retail business had by then grown to the point where a company, C.M. Roberts & Son, had been formed. Demand was so great that the firm was dependent on outside supplies of milk to supplement those from the family farms.

During the second world war, Roberts was heavily involved in the local agriculture committees to ensure that food production was maximised. However, as part of that effort, the government was also keen to rationalise milk distribution. Consequently, in 1942, Roberts accepted an offer for the family firm from Express Dairy, to which he had previously given first refusal in the event of a rival bid.

Five years later Roberts joined the Express board, becoming managing director in 1960 and chairman in 1967. He was an early post-war visitor to the United States to study the then novel supermarket style of food retailing. This was a potentially im-

portant outlet for milk, so Express formed Premier Supermarkets and established a chain in south-east England. However, the operation was limited by today's standards. The supermarkets rarely exceeded 5,000 sq ft, whereas 40,000 sq ft is common today. Furthermore, instead of concentrating on retailing, Premier drew supplies from its own market garden.

Express also diversified into hotels, and this may have brought it to the notice of the acquisitive Maxwell Joseph, the late chairman of Grand Metropolitan, which was also a large customer of Express.

In 1969 Joseph made a £32 million takeover bid for Express, having secured the right to buy a controlling 70 per cent of its preference and voting shares. Roberts fought the bid, promising to enfranchise non-voting shares in Express if Grand Metropoli-



tan were defeated, but the gesture was too late. However, Roberts stayed on as chairman for four years before retiring at 65.

Away from work, Roberts's great love was horses. He was either buying them for his business before the war, or he was riding them as chairman of the Vale of Aylesbury hunt. He once landed at Southampton after a trip to Australia and was in the saddle before midday. He apparently fell off a few minutes later.

Roberts was a member of the Worshipful Company of Farmers and a Freeman of the City of London.

He is survived by his wife, Lucy, and five daughters.

## APPRECIATION

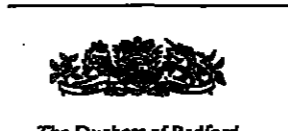
## Captain Peter Manisty

MAY I add a short note, on the role of Captain Peter Manisty (obituary, July 27) at Dunkirk. In 1939-40, Peter was "Pilot" (navigator) aboard the Fleet minesweeper *Gossamer* (Commander R. C. V. Ross, DSO — 5th Minesweeper Flotilla).

Joining "Operation Dynamo" on May 28, 1940, *Gossamer* and the other ships in the flotilla (in all, four *Halcyon* class and four "Smoky Joes" from the first world war) made six eventual round trips to Dunkirk: the last two on June 2 and June 4 when more than 1,000 French servicemen were taken aboard from the broken jetties and evacuated safely to Sheerness.

John Scott

## August 10 ON THIS DAY 1929



The Duchess of Bedford (1865-1937), took part in more than one record-breaking flight as a passenger or co-pilot, having obtained her flying licence when over 60. A many-talented woman, she ran her own hospital, qualified as a theatre sister and radiographer and was also a fine game shot and fisherman. She lost her life when flying solo in 1937.

## THE DUCHESS'S FLIGHT

The Duchess of Bedford reached Croydon yesterday afternoon after completing a flight to and from India by daylight within eight days, and was cordially cheered by a large crowd which had assembled to witness her arrival.

On Friday morning last week she left Lympne aerodrome in her Fokker monoplane and reached Karachi on Monday evening, the journey having occupied three days and nine hours. On the following day the return journey was begun at dawn and was completed after a flight which occupied three days and about 13 hours.

The flight outward was made in four stages, the stopping places on the way being Sofia, Aleppo, and Bushire, and between 12 and 16 hours were spent in the air each day. Captain C. D. Barnard was the pilot, and with him as relief and mechanic was Mr R. F. Little. At the close of the flight each day a considerable time was occupied in refuelling and inspection in readiness for an early start on the following morning, so that the hours of daylight could be fully utilised for the journey. The same procedure was followed on the return journey, during which the stopping-places were Bushire, Aleppo and Sofia. Yesterday a start was made from Sofia shortly after 4 o'clock in

the morning. The weather was unfavourable during the latter part of the flight, but the scheduled time — during the homeward journey was well maintained.

It had been announced that the Duchess of Bedford would reach Croydon about 5 o'clock, and before that time a large crowd began to gather at the landing ground. A message was received shortly before 5 o'clock that the aeroplane had been sighted at Lympne. At half past 5 o'clock it approached Croydon, and the landing was rapidly made. The Duchess of Bedford stated that she had had an excellent journey and that she was greatly pleased with the achievement.

The machine in which the flight was made is now named *The Spider*, but it was formerly known as the Princess Xenia. Captain Macintosh made an unsuccessful attempt to fly the Atlantic in it, and later, with Squadron-Leader Hindker, endeavoured to make a non-stop run in it to India, but after being in the air for 24 hours he was forced to land in Poland. Later still another attempt was made to fly to India in this machine, but it failed owing to engine trouble. The machine was subsequently bought by the Duchess of Bedford, who had it thoroughly overhauled.

Our Aeronautical Correspondent writes: The Duchess of Bedford has carried out a useful demonstration of the speed of air transport, and, of course, its value lies in any future application to air-mail communication. The type of aircraft the Duchess of Bedford used is a single-engine Fokker monoplane, and is not suitable for carrying his Majesty's mails, as any regular service must be assured against forced landings, and to do this multi-engine aircraft are needed. The *Spider* would probably carry about 500lb of mail, but for any effective establishment of rapid Empire air mails special types of air-mail carriers must be developed.

## Piping Henderson's Silver Chanter

BY ANGUS NICOL

UNLIKE the other principal piping events, which are unequivocally competitions, the Silver Chanter is essentially a recital of *ceòl mòr*, the great music of the Highland bagpipe, at the end of which one of the pipers is awarded the coveted trophy which gives the event its name.

Six pipers, all of whom have achieved considerable distinction, and particularly during the last year, were invited. Each played on pibroch, a recital of four of them by MacCrimmon. Last week's recital took place in the very room in Dunvegan Castle, Skye, where many of the MacCrimmon tunes were first performed by their composers to MacLeod of MacLeod.

The first tune was the MacLeods' Salute, composed in 1603 by Donald Mòr MacCrimmon, to mark the end of a long-standing controversy between the MacLeods and the MacDonalds. This was

played by Pipe Major Alasdair Gillies. Roderick MacLeod, who won the Silver Chanter in 1989, played one of the tunes not by a MacCrimmon: this was the Lament for Padruig Og MacCrimmon, composed in about 1700 by Iain Dall MacKay, a pupil of Padruig Og, who was erroneously told that his master was dead. Padruig Og himself later played the lament. A tune reputed to have been composed in about 1560 by Iain Odhar MacCrimmon, Maol Donn, or MacCrimmon's Sweetheart, was played by Alfie Morrison.

Colin MacLellan won the Silver Chanter in each of the last two years. On this occasion he played a tune by John MacKay, Raasay (father of Queen Victoria's piper, Angus MacKay); the Lament for MacLeod of Colbeck.

Padruig Mòr MacCrimmon, who accompanied the then Chief of MacLeod to the

Civil War on the King's side, was presented to King Charles after the Battle of Worcester in 1651. He then composed his famous tune, I Got a Kiss of the King's Hand, which was played on this occasion by Pipe Major Angus MacDonald. The last to play, Murray Henderson, who has won the Silver Chanter three times, played another tune by Padruig Mòr, the Lament for the Earl of Antrim.

While not the greatest of Silver Chanter recitals in its 26-year history, the music itself, and the history to which it owes its existence, made it in truth a *culm-chitull*, a feast of music.

The judges, Angus MacLellan and William MacDonald, Benbecula, soon reached their decision and Donald MacLeod of Glen-dale presented the Silver Chanter to Murray Henderson, whose performance clearly merited the trophy.

## Birthdays today

Mr John Alldis, conductor, 63; Sir Frank Bowden, industrialist and landowner, 83; Dame Gillian Brown, diplomat, 69; Lord Justice Butler-Sloss, 59; Sir Lawrence Byford, former HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary, 67; Mrs Lella Campbell, former chairman, ILEA, 81; General Sir George Cooper, 67; Professor Alexander Gordon Gray, former Archbishop of St Andrews and Edinburgh, 82; Sir Alan Hardcastle, accountancy adviser to HM Treasury, 59; the Earl of Iveagh, 23; Mr Leonard Lickorish, former director-general, British Tourist Authority, 71; Lord Lisle, 89; Mrs Barbara Mills, QC, director of Public Prosecutions, 52; Miss Kate O'Mara, actress, 33; Lord Porritt, 92; Mr David Rowland, chairman, Selgwick Group, 59; Lord Stowarth, 57; Mrs Elizabeth Thomas, literary consultant, 73; Mr Richard Wells, chief constable, South Yorkshire, 52; Mr George Wynn-Williams, obstetrician and gynaecologist, 81.

## The Duchy of Lancaster

Colonel Nicolas Davies has been appointed Chief Clerk and Deputy Clerk of the Council of the Duchy of Lancaster, in succession to Major Sir Peter Clarke, who has retired.



lympic sketch  
man's place  
the podium



**LOOKS p5**  
**Square deal:**  
the bandanna  
is the season's  
fashion craze

**EDUCATION p6**  
**Profits of**  
learning:  
the summer  
school



# LIFE & TIMES

MONDAY AUGUST 10 1992

## The reign of Spain is mainly down the drain

The package holiday is alive and well, but the average British tourist is demanding more excitement and exotica than the tired and shabby costas can offer, Paul Barker reports

They were the world's first terrorist group that specifically targeted tourists. "Las Noches de Diciembre" — the Nights of December — bombed and stabbed and murdered, often in horribly ingenious ways, such as suffocating a visitor by pushing a souvenir toy alligator down his throat. They were led by a renegade Miami newspaper columnist who had tired of writing about the supposed whims and charms of Florida. Tourism, he argued, corrupted local life.

Yet British package tourists have been pouring into Florida's Disney wonderlands and on to the beaches of Fort Lauderdale and Sarasota. They have only dodged the terrorist backlash because, fortunately, Las Noches de Diciembre is, so far, fictional. Carl Hiaasen created them in his black-humour thriller *Tourist Season*. (Hiaasen is best known for another title, cited by Chris Patten when Tory chairman: *Double Whammy*.)

All the same, Thomson, Airtours and the rest should be wary. If you want to peer into the future, fiction writers can be better prophets than facts and figures, which are always based on the past.

In their new special report on package holidays, Mintel, the market analyst, tries to keep the business's pecker up. It noted that the "post-election boom did not materialise", and that this year, "many major tour operators turned once again to discount practices" which they had tried to give up. They just ended up cutting one another's throats, witness last month's collapse of Land Travel.

The Mintel report recognised fears that the business "is in terminal decline", but reckoned there will always be a demand for package trips, of some sort.

The traditional trips, however, were themselves based on a fiction: an American dream invented in France in the 1920s by Caresse and Harry Crosby and taken up by their friends, Zelda and Scott Fitzgerald. Before them, no one who was anyone ever went to the hot Mediterranean coast in the summer.

Vulgarised, it became the brochure-writers' glossy dream of Sun, Sea, Sand and Sex. It followed the rules of what the sociologists, Michael Young and Peter Willmott, call the Tocqueville Effect, which lays down that "what the few have today, the many will demand tomorrow". From the 1950s on, it was packaged, and sold, at Benidorm, Torremolinos and Malaga.

Now — in its original form at least — the business is inexorably on the slide. According to Mintel's latest count — that for 1990 — Spain had lost almost a third of its package business in the previous four years, although more Britons (2,816,000) still went there than to any other country.

Franco's cloistered Spain, Edmund Swinglehurst of Thomas Cook, the firm's archivist, says modern tourism "has changed the world for the better". For one thing, it helped bring Spain into modern Europe. "A thousand people arrived on the coast. Those wild Englishmen, doing what they wanted, loosened the place up. They asked the visitors why they worked a 16-hour day. Young Spaniards' ideas changed. The institution of chaperonage disappeared."

But Spain was a country aching to get away from its past. Will it be the same everywhere? In pursuit of new goods to sell, the package operators delve further and further into the third world. Where the tour guide leads, can Las Noches de Diciembre be far behind? In the Gambia, package tourists live an isolated life. "Intrepid spirits go to the souk — once. They return rather shocked," Mr Swinglehurst says. Rosemary Astles, the marketing director of Thomson Tours, acknowledges that the civil unrest in Kenya "is a little bit concerning".

Even Spain finds itself with an unhappy inheritance: mile upon mile of shabby 30-year-old hotels nobody wants to stay in. You can't understand this without looking at the social history of Britain. Once, the hotels seemed grand by comparison with the homes most people lived in. But now, it's not the same thing at all.

British resorts such as Blackpool and Morecambe were made what they were by the Holidays with Pay Act of 1938. After the war, higher wages and union-negotiated holidays of a fortnight or more crippled British resorts. Ordinary families could go further, and stay longer.

Now it is the turn of Spain (and the Algarve and Italy's Adriatic coast) to suffer from social change. The British have grown bolder. They don't need so much sunbathing. They don't mind going out into the local food shops. They can even cope with the French.

Airtours, the fastest-growing package firm, has gone successfully into the French gîte business, with self-catering. Last year, a readers'

survey by *Holiday Which?* rated Airtours "the worst operator overall". But the firm floats above all that. Founded by David Crossland, a former travel agent, it is run from Rossendale, in the Lancashire Pennines. Airtours now has 13 per cent of the package business. (Thomson leads, with 32 per cent.)

Now the aim is to offer packages that seem more individual ("bespoke travel" is the phrase), and offer what Ms Astles calls "a bit of adventure in a very safe fashion".

When, in 1950, Maurice Herzog climbed Annapurna I (the world's first conquest of an 8,000m peak), he made his way to base camp up a Nepalese valley where no one spoke English, religion ruled and modern medicine was absent. It was, he wrote, like going back to the Middle Ages. Now, little more than a generation on, you can buy hamburgers and pizzas at local travel-lodges. Travers Cox is an Australian one-time backpacker whose firm, Explore, based in Aldershot, Hampshire, packages "exploratory holidays" for small groups. The Sherpas who ease you along that same valley, on Mr Cox's "classic Nepal trek", could be the sons and grandsons of Herzog's guides. Spain, in Mr Cox's packaging, means a hike in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada. This year, Explore will shepherd about 10,000 people to its far-away places with adventurous-sounding names.

Cheap air travel is what drives package tours. No one drives overland to Kathmandu any more, as Mr Cox used to. Maurice East, of Eastcote management consultants, advises travel firms on their business. "It grows, or doesn't grow, because of cheap seats. They are the only essential. If millions of people start going to the Falklands, you'll know it is down to empty seats. You can always find cheap beds. Growth in Florida was all about the weak state of the North Atlantic market for scheduled flights. Planes were flying half-empty out of Miami."

And why the Gambia? "British Caledonian won a route to the Gambia," Mr East says. "They started it for commercial reasons —



Tourism's trail-blazer: Alan Whicker's latest television series deals with the ultimate package tour, taking in the Great Wall of China

taking out workers who were drilling for oil or building a port. In those days, fighting against British Airways, once you got a route, you kept it. But not enough people wanted to go.

"So British Caledonian built two hotels to fill seats up. It went on from there. It was slightly exotic. An outpost in Africa. In the Gambia, you had black people doing their tribal dances, as opposed to less-black people doing other tribal dances in Spain."

Destinations grow ever more exotic. Thomson has plunged into "Weddings in Paradise": 4,000 couples a year now go to places such as Bali or the Seychelles to get married. Thomson packages 1,700

of them. (Don't forget your birth certificates and, if appropriate, proof of decree absolute.) It has been known for a couple to decide to call it off once they've got there. But Ms Astles, at Thomson, thinks it hasn't happened to one of theirs. "You can get enough arguments beforehand, though, for you to wonder if it will ever happen." No refunds for non-nuptials.

Social history strikes again. Britain is now predominantly "a property-owning democracy". The Conservatives launched this political slogan in the mid-1950s, simultaneously with the early package tours. Mrs Thatcher drove it home. One effect is to spread ever wider what Mintel calls "the windfall of inherited wealth". One way such windfalls are spent is on fancy holidays.

The last word in fancy holidays is currently being celebrated by Alan Whicker, in four programmes (the last is on TV this Friday at 9pm) called *The Ultimate Package*. He went on Thomson Cook's 150th anniversary round-the-world package last autumn: 87 travellers paying £21,000 a head.

They went to every "trophy destination," in Mr Whicker's words, from the Pyramids and the Taj Mahal to the Great Wall of China and Easter Island. In Peking's tragic Tiananmen Square, one couple is delighted to find that you see "not a piece of paper, not a bottle top, anywhere". On Easter Island, there is a murmured feeling

that Stonehenge is just as good. In Tahiti, the hosts (as befits respectable business folk) keep their clothes on. It is the visitors who imitate Gauguin postcards and bare their breasts.

For the time being, Spain is still top package. But the graffiti is on the wall. Package people want to change, even if it is only a smallish one. Cyprus, not long opened to charter flights, is the Med's rising star. (Greek Cyprus, that is: if you want Garboesque solitude, find your way to the Turkish side.)

It is a funny moment for the BBC to pick southern Spain as the right place for a soap opera. But, contemplating present trends, I have a suggestion for its scriptwriter.

They should not try to squeeze *Eldorado* into a portrait of life today, complete with up-to-the-minute social problems. There is a better bet. Unwittingly, the BBC has got in on the ground floor of a new nostalgia market: more *Coronation Street* than *EastEnders*. This is the way it was, don't you remember, when we flew from Luton with Mum and Dad? Spain is how things used to be.

**TOMORROW**  
Rodney Milnes on opera superstars in the making

THE TOP-TEN DESTINATIONS IN 1992, COMPARED WITH 1991					
1992 Place	Numbers	Market share	1991 Place	Numbers	Market share
1. Majorca	325,000	19%	1. Majorca	1.4m	18%
2. Costa Brava	280,000	8%	2. Cyprus	700,000	8%
3. Ibiza	225,000	8%	3. USA	545,000	7%
4. Costa Del Sol	245,000	5%	4. Algarve	545,000	7%
5. Costa Blanca	195,000	4%	5. Tenerife	485,000	6%
6. Corsica	195,000	4%	6. Costa	380,000	5%
7. Yugoslavia	195,000	4%	7. France	310,000	4%
8. Algarve	145,000	3%	8. Crete	310,000	4%
9. Mallorca	145,000	3%	9. Ibiza	310,000	4%
10. Tenerife	145,000	3%	10. Rhodes	310,000	4%

OFFICIAL figures show that the number of holidays taken abroad by air, and including leisure travel bought direct by the customer, rose to a record 12.6 million in both 1988 and 1989 then dropped back to 11.4 million in 1990, to 10.5 million last year and should be up by between five and seven per cent this year.

The number of actual package holidays sold through travel agents is more difficult to estimate. The best indication is that in 1982 a total of 4.85 million package holidays, bought through travel agency brochures, were sold compared with an estimated 7.7 million which will be sold this year.

## Let's take compassionate-leave-of-our-senses

Listless, dejected, fed up? Back from holiday and hating it? Or worse, are you sharing an office with someone who has just had his three weeks in the Dordogne and now sports a glowing, carcinogenic suntan and an expression of intense sultriness? Take heart. I offer you, free of charge, the *Cliff Wright Solution*.

Mr Wright, now honourably retired, used to be the chief engineer at Radio Oxford, and as such he had a good deal to put up with. Upon BBC local radio engineers falls the task of absorbing and buffering the tensions and shocks which occur when engineering facts meet creative ideas, feasibility clashes with the urgent dreams of newsmen, and middle-aged engineers in ties who enjoy Neil Shute confront illiterate juveniles with their knuckles brushing the ground.

We all brought our little troubles to Cliff and his colleague Derek when the Radio Car broke down during an interview about the Watchdog Free Festival, with Afrey Neave MP and a hippie organiser stranded in it when Magdalen College Tower required 150ft of cable dangling down its ancient sides to convey the dawn carols on May Day, and the cable then began picking up World Service

and when a circus bear ate my microphone windshield. Usually, they kept smiling.

But once Mr Wright had a long-service sabbatical and went away for several months. When he came back, he looked around with some distaste and formulated a principle I have never forgotten. "There ought to be a rule," he said. "When you get back to work you should be entitled in your contract to one full day's sulking for each week you've been away."

It was brilliant. Think about it: after a long weekend you could legitimately remain doxy and unproductive until Tuesday midday (you will anyway, so you might as well have it as a right). After a fortnight off, you need barely speak to your colleagues until Wednesday. After a month, you get four days' recuperation when your mind can be visibly elsewhere, your lunch-hours evasively lengthened and your telephone callers fobbed off with impunity.

After maternity leave you would have a full fortnight in which to behave as badly as you wish. Just think of it: none of that showy dynamism and brittle pretended enthusiasm, none of those tight Lycra skirts to prove to the boss you ain't a back number yet. You could stick with your floral sacks, rifle

**WORKING LIFE**  
**Libby Purves points**  
out the wisdom of  
**Wright's Law**



through beloved photographs all day with favoured colleagues, shove the URGENT pile into the drawer and lope off home to the baby at four-fifteen, without even bothering to mutter some lie about a dental appointment. And nobody could interfere with your legitimate sulking-period. But when it ended you would be expected to snap back into full productivity, willingness and humming energy.

They really might as well write it into employment law, this compassionate-leave-of-our-senses, because few of us come back from holiday entirely normal. Nor is it a charter for lead-singers and idlers, because in fact the habitual idler comes back more predictable — still idle and sulky — than the dedicated workaholic. Everybody has higher expectations of the latter, but the fact is that once a conscientious, nipping office worker does actually succeed in switching off (and it can take days of pacing the beach sands worrying about the restructuring of the Middle East branch), it is equally difficult to switch him on again.

He — or she — looks at the same worn carpet, the same peeling year-planners, the same telephone grimed with the paric grip of old deadlines, and feels the creeping horror of an addict looking back on his old degradation. The sight is about as welcome as handcuffs to a freed hostage, or a full ashtray to a reformed smoker. When you have been another and younger man, or a happy and carefree woman for a fortnight the very sight of the office can hit you like a physical blow. You get over it, and shrug on the old yoke eventually with resignation, but it takes time. Sulking time. So why not make it official, like

trauma leave? You are in grief, mourning your holiday self.

Perhaps they should also hand out a few little texts to read during the days of yawning. There is a very splendid one from Jonathan Gathorne-Hardy quoted in the new *Chatto Book of Office Life*.

"No-one ever seriously believes," Mr Gathorne-Hardy says, "that they will be in an office all their working lives. For 45 years. Secretly they believe something will rescue them — a football pool, arson. I'm sorry, sir. Yes, completely burnt to the ground. As you see, sir, just a gaping hole. Not a hope of it starting up again, I'm afraid. All the files gone, the records — the whole Board consumed in the flames too, I'm afraid. But I understand they were well insured, very well insured. Compensation should amount to three-quarters full salary for the rest of each employee's lifetime. Yes, quite sure, sir."

Sharing this fantasy unhindered, just for those few sulking days, might make all the difference. Then the blazing holiday light will pale, the office furniture cease to look so like a rack and screw, and the returned sulker turn into a reasonably committed colleague again. It is Wright's Law. Let it be recognised.



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# Hidden depths beneath Swan Lake

This year's Edinburgh Festival, which begins on Sunday, offers an important platform for reassessing Tchaikovsky's musical achievements, says David Brown

Two years ago we celebrated Tchaikovsky's 150th birthday; next year we commemorate the centenary of his death. So it was an inspired idea of this year's Edinburgh International Festival to place a special emphasis upon his music. Inspired, because 1990's gentle festivities may have primed our awareness that there is still much unknown, but excellent Tchaikovsky to be discovered; inspired, too, because by next year's festival we may well have had our fill of him (though, pray God, we may be spared the more fulsome excesses which marked Mozart Year).



Russian Orthodox mass. The Liturgy of St John Chrysostom. Here, instead of the turbulence or even violence, melancholy or even pain, so familiar in some of his operatic and concert music, we encounter a spirit of mysticism, even a timelessness, that we might have suspected was beyond him.

True, Edinburgh is offering cycles of the familiar symphonies and piano concertos, as well as all the chamber music, among the 30 performances of Tchaikovsky's work. Yet how many music lovers are still little acquainted with the Third Concerto or that intriguing piece, the Concert Fantasia? And what about the original version of the Second Symphony ("Little Russian"), whose first movement is almost totally different from the familiar one, and which will be receiving only its second-ever professional performance in the British Isles?

Indeed, the very range of the music to be heard must surely prompt a reassessment of the man who created it, for no composer ever entangled his personal experience of life with his creative work more than Tchaikovsky did. Forty years ago, when I was a student, it seemed easy: Tchaikovsky was no more than a neurotic homosexual who poured out his inner woes unrestrainedly in his music, and perhaps felt better afterwards. He had a flair for good tunes, but was otherwise a bit of a simpleton in both his life and his work. And how wrong we were.

What turned the single volume of 150,000 words commissioned from me in 1975 into four volumes of 600,000 was the sheer range and richness I discovered in his music, and the complexity — and extraordinary attractiveness — of the man. No one was kinder, more generous in responding to any case of need, whether it was a student unable to fund himself (or herself) through conservatoire, a relative in difficulties, or simply a woman in his publisher's office whom he chanced to hear was in desperate straits.

More surprisingly, he could be very clear-headed, even wise. In his own life he may have made some appalling decisions — that, for instance, he could defeat his homosexuality through marriage, an experiment he ventured upon in 1877 and which drove him to attempt suicide. But when it was another's problem he was looking at, he was the most balanced of counsellors, generous in advice, and unstinting in giving of his own time. In 1883, when his eldest niece became pregnant and, on the pretext of needing a cure for drug dependency, was removed to Paris so that her parents would not discover the truth, it was Uncle Peter who looked after her during the last weeks, saw her through her confinement, arranged



Living with a gun to his head: no composer ever entangled his personal life with his creative work more than Tchaikovsky did

the adoption of her son by a French family, then supported the child. Most surprisingly of all, he was an excellent troubleshooter. In the mid-1880s, when the Moscow Conservatoire was falling apart through personality clashes and resignations, it was Tchaikovsky who was begged to spend days going round Moscow, banging heads together, persuading people to withdraw resignations, to accept reemployment. But for his efforts, the institution would probably have disintegrated.

And all this kind of activity and involvement continued even when the demands on him, both as a composer and internationally famed conductor, would have made the burden of life almost intolerable for a lesser man. He travelled to the United States in 1891 to share in the inauguration of the new Carnegie Hall in New York; he came to England several times, the last in June 1893, only months before his death, to receive an honorary D.Mus. from Cambridge University.

Yet for all the strains these trips entailed, the impression he made as a person was always the same: "lovable", "endearing", "modest", "courtly", "gentle".

Nevertheless, within months he had died in circumstances that are certainly quite different from those officially promulgated. The story given out was that he had succumbed to cholera through drinking unboiled water. Few seem to have believed this, but the eastern and affectionate Russian society had conceived for him seems to have resulted in a conspiracy of silence.

The issue was raised again in 1979, when the Soviet scholar, Alexandra Orlova, emigrated to the West and smuggled out a story she had come across quite by accident in 1966. This told of a court of honour convened by some of Tchaikovsky's former school fellows from the School of Jurisprudence in St Petersburg (one of Russia's most prestigious schools) to prevent a homosexual liaison involving Tchaikovsky from becoming a public scandal, and thus besmirching the

honour of the school. Tchaikovsky was summoned to appear, and after more than five hours of deliberations was told to go away and kill himself. Five years ago support for this story came unexpectedly from a second, quite independent source.

Whether this really happened we shall probably never know. What does seem absolutely certain is that Tchaikovsky committed suicide. Many in the old Soviet Union had long accepted this privately, and only very recently corroboration came from a study made by the American scholar, Dr Mary Woodside, of the unpublished papers of Aloys Mosser, the Swiss musicologist. Mosser had worked in St Petersburg from 1896 to 1909, and was surprised when the conductor, Riccardo Drigo, who had directed the first performance of *The Nutcracker*, told him that Tchaikovsky had committed suicide to prevent a homosexual relationship becoming public. Incredible. Mosser had sought out the compos-

er Alexander Glazunov, who had been close to Tchaikovsky in his last years and who was noted for his integrity. Glazunov had unequivocally confirmed Drigo's assertion.

Would it have made any difference if this scandal (assuming there was any foundation for it) had become common knowledge? Very little, I suspect. Tchaikovsky's homosexuality had long been public knowledge, but it does not seem to have impaired the love his compatriots had developed for him. He was given a state funeral — the first commoner to be granted this honour — and 60,000 people applied for tickets to attend. Finally 8,000 were crammed into the Kazan Cathedral while the remainder seem to have packed the streets, for it was only four hours later that the procession reached the cemetery. Ninety-nine years later many may still wonder whether Tchaikovsky really merited this homage. If so, Edinburgh this year offers a chance to begin a reassessment.

Edinburgh Festival programme details: 031 225 5756

## ARTS BRIEF

### Musical tribute

ONE of the most successful producers in the history of musicals, Cameron Mackintosh, is to receive the Richard Rodgers Award for Excellence in Musical Theatre. The award, established by the families of Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II in association with the Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera, goes to the British impresario for his unparalleled success in the production of musicals that have become his around the world, among them *Cats*, *Les Misérables*, *The Phantom of the Opera* and *Miss Saigon*. Mackintosh currently has eight shows playing in more than a dozen languages in 44 countries. Five of his productions are running on Broadway and in the West End simultaneously. The award is to be presented in Pittsburgh on October 16. Previous winners include the director Harold Prince (*Cats*, *Les Misérables*, *Phantom of the Opera*), and the actresses Julie Andrews and Mary Martin.

### Sole entry

SALLY POTTER's adaptation of Virginia Woolf's novel *Orlando* will be the sole British entry among the 19 films competing at the Venice Film Festival, which runs from September 1 to 12. Our jury representation is stronger: the team of seven includes Sheila Whitaker, director of the London Film Festival, and the writer Hanif Kureishi, as well as the Irish director Neil Jordan. Other competing for Venice's Golden Lion include Zhang Yimou's *The Story of Qiu Ju*, Bertrand Tavernier's *L 627*, and new films by Otar Iosseliani, Agnieszka Holland and Brian De Palma.



Virginia Woolf: film adaptation for Venice

### Oddball offerings

FOR six weeks starting on October 2, Nottingham is hosting its fourth arts festival, with 23 premieres and live performances spanning the disciplines of dance, theatre, film, video, visual arts and music. Among the dance highlights will be the Chomondeleys in *Walkie Talkie*, and Belgium's Wim Vandekeybus. Ralf Ralf and Dogs in Honey are to present two of the 12 new theatrical works, while the most bizarre offering has to be Vinyl Requiem, a "scratch orchestra" of over 40 vintage turntables and hundreds of gramophone records. Details on 0602 419419.

### Last chance...

THE 224th Royal Academy Summer Exhibition may be the same mixture as before, but it is certainly more smoothly blended. This time sculpture and architecture, which formerly occupied their own ghettos, are broadcast throughout the show, and abstracts, which broke out of their year or two back, are now so widespread that they demand no special attention. Controversy is virtually confined to the room hung by Peter Blake, where "real art" is boldly juxtaposed with primitives taken off the lids of biscuit tins to make a Blake installation rather than a usual Academy display. It can all be seen at the Academy (071-439 4996) until Sunday.

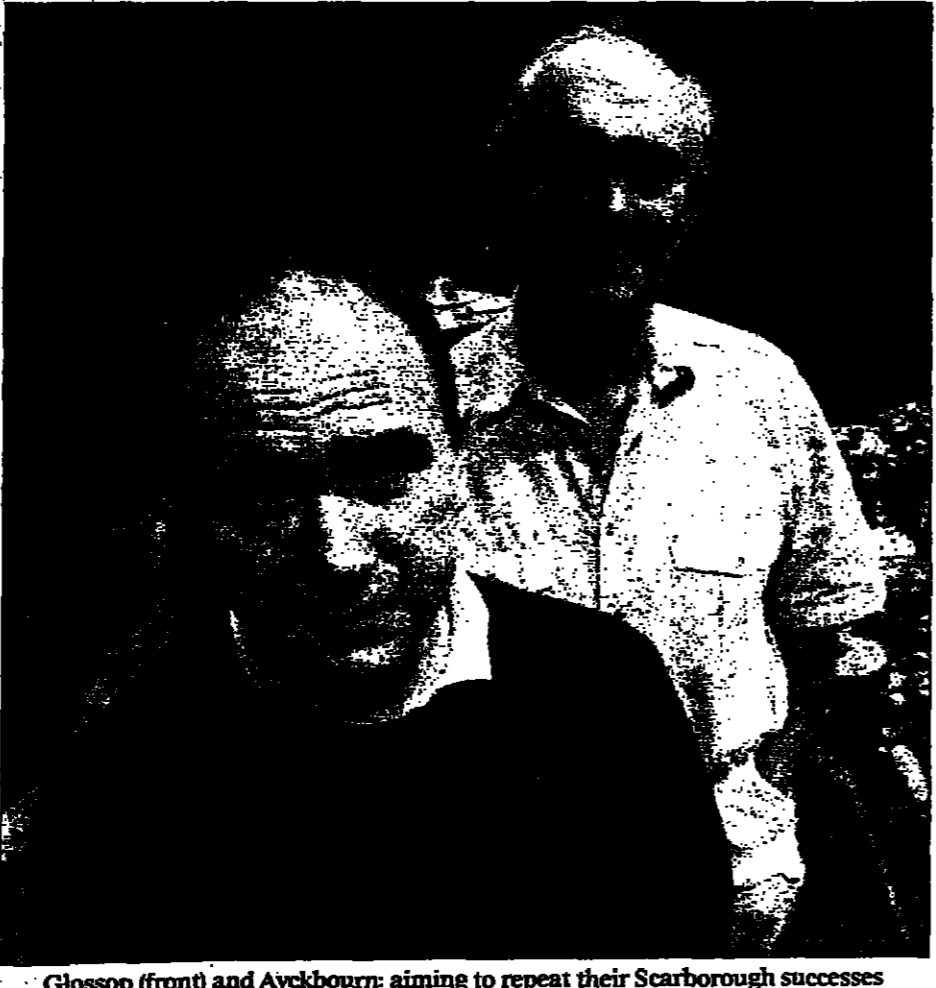
## Playing with Peter Rabbit

Heather Neill on how Cumbria gets a new theatre, and Alan Ayckbourn gets a second home

According to Alan Ayckbourn, "Roger is a committed regionalist. He gets the jitters when he approaches Shepherd's Bush." The playwright who put Scarborough on the map with in-the-round productions of his plays before television snooker discovered the place, is helping his friend, the designer Roger Glossop, to do the same for another northern town, Bowness-on-Windermere in Cumbria.

Glossop's Old Laundry Visitor Centre, featuring "The World of Beatrix Potter" exhibition, has been open in Bowness for just over a year. It has a café, a shop, a small lecture-theatre — and a bit of space left over. Glossop says he kept looking at this space, wondering how best to use it. Then it struck him: the dimensions were almost exactly the same as those of Ayckbourn's Stephen Joseph Theatre in Scarborough. Glossop knows that theatre well, having designed many of Ayckbourn's plays there as well as in London, including *Invisible Friends* at the National, and *Man of the Moment* and *Reverend's Comedies* in the West End.

The latest Scarborough Ayckbourn, a comedy about family tensions called *Time of My Life*, also designed by Roger Glossop, will open at Bowness next Monday. Both hope this will be the first of many transfers. Ayckbourn even envisages a possible shunting of repertoire between the two venues. Both are cautious, but then, as Ayckbourn says, "Twenty years ago people said you could run for 13 weeks and 13 weeks only in Scarborough. Now our season goes from March to January."



Glossop (front) and Ayckbourn: aiming to repeat their Scarborough successes

any deadline. Ayckbourn says Glossop leaves design decisions: "hair-raisingly late" when they are working together — which he loves, relishing the flexibility of last-minute changes. There will be precious little time to oversee the transfer: the technical rehearsal for Ayckbourn's new musical in Scarborough, *Dreams from a Summer House*, is scheduled to coincide with the Bowness opening. The new space is an almost exact replica, however, a simple cube designed for theatre-in-the-round and seating 260.

Glossop is clearly as talented a businessman as he is a designer. The Old Laundry is funded entirely by private investment and bank loans. He and his wife Charlotte Scott run two companies, Lakes Story Limited, which manages the Bowness development, and its parent com-

pany, Velvetfield, which carries out scenery construction for heritage projects such as The White Cliffs Experience in Dover, as well as for theatrical ones.

Theatre skills inform all the work at Bowness. The Beatrix Potter exhibition is cleverly lit and arranged as a series of environments, from Mr Toad, the fox's bedroom to Mrs Tiggywinkle's laundry. The new theatre will benefit from the financial stability afforded by the exhibition. "It is reassuring to know that we don't have to put on plays 52 weeks of the year," says Glossop. "There has been talk of building a theatre in Bowness for thirty years. A local amateur dramatic group is already planning a production of *Spring and Port Wine* in December and visiting com-

panies will bring children's plays and a piece about Houdini — including escape acts. Glossop says that part of his intention was to provide a service for the community. The building he bought two years ago was virtually derelict. It once dealt with all the laundry from the surrounding hotels and then became a boat yard. Its discreet metamorphosis into "visitor centre" could scarcely have been more successful — 120,000 visitors in the first year. Glossop, however, is a natural pessimist: "The first day 700 people came in. I said we could never keep that up." With Ayckbourn in support, he seems to have provided himself with another excuse for some enjoyable worrying. Time of My Life opens at The Old Laundry, Bowness-on-Windermere next Monday (05394 88444)

## TELEVISION REVIEW

### Calls for help

THE dark side of English silliness about sex (including the obsession with "dirty vicars") is the suicidal despair of those whose lives have been blighted by an absence of love. Chad Varah, the octogenarian founder of the Samaritans to whom Channel 4 devoted an hour-long documentary last night, was a 24-year-old curate in 1935 when he buried a young girl who had killed herself, traumatised by the onset of menstruation but with nowhere to turn. He knew then that he would spend his life telling young couples about sex, and that he would be jeered. "I did, and I was, and I'm glad."

Needless to say, Chad Varah rejoices in his tabloid sobriquet "the Parson Who Can't Be Shocked", yet he retains his ability to shock others. Not just his unsacred activities — writing columns for *Penthouse* and *Forum*, helping to create the strip cartoon *Dan Dare* in the *Eagle* — but his irreverence for authority marks him out as a troublemaker.

Varah does not merely say the Creed each Sunday; he actually believes it. If he did not, he would resign, he says, and he thinks Anglican clergy who do not subscribe to Chris-

tian doctrine (mostly, as he delicately put it, the better paid clergy) have no business living on church stipends. Varah himself took holy orders reluctantly, dragged by a saintly bishop on his deathbed.

The key to his big idea, the Samaritans, was the telephone. Before 1953, when he set up his special number for those contemplating suicide, the telephone's therapeutic potential had not been recognised. Its anonymity and informality gave volunteers as well as callers confidence. Some of the early Samaritan volunteers who were interviewed seemed so unworried that they might have needed an unshockable parson. One woman, part of the team assigned to listen to obscene callers, asked with a blush whether it was all right to say "knickers" on television.

Chad Varah's theatrical flair and a powerful sense of his

own abilities served the Samaritans well. One activist praised him for having the sense to stand back once the charity could run without him.

One sensed a certain unease, however, when this evangelist of sexual enlightenment spoke about the dangers of exploitation. When he began work before the war, fear bred by ignorance of sexuality was a common evil. Today, the sexual abuse of children, the exposure of the immature to pornography and violent sex crimes seem more pressing problems. Varah may have much to say about these consequences of greater sexual awareness, but Michael Darlow's programme did not give him the chance.

Still, the qualities which make Chad Varah a true Good Samaritan emerged strongly from this portrait. His determination to prevent all preventable suicides is in every way preferable to euthanasia, and not only from the standpoint of the suicidal. Those who enable the sick or anguished to kill themselves risk moral corruption. Being one of the Samaritans, by contrast, has proved to be ennobling, not least for his founder.

DANIEL JOHNSON

## JAZZ RECORDS

### Battle of the saxes

JUST about everyone's favourite saxophone revivalist, American tenor player Scott Hamilton seems incapable of turning out a shoddy piece of work: he simply has too much good taste. Even so, a disquieting air of ennui had crept in to his recent recordings.

Perhaps it is just over-exposure. It is only a matter of months since the release of his last album, *Race Point*, and there has been a relentless stream of re-issues.

So the news that another new album was on its way aroused mixed emotions. There was no need to worry — *Groovin' High* (Concord CCD-4509) is the most satisfying session since the all-ballad set made three years ago. Amiable and underdramatic, Hamilton is at his best

when there are other horn players on hand to provide competition. On *Groovin' High* he is confronted by two other tenors — Ken Peplowski and Spike Robinson. The album opens at an exhilarating pace with the three men engaged in a good-natured fencing match on the Gene Ammons-Sonny Stitt tune "Blues Up and Down".

Hamilton's partners both share his unashamedly melodic approach. Peplowski is increasingly confident on tenor, so much so that it is not always easy to tell him and Hamilton apart. With Robinson also on exceptional blowing form, the competition between the three men is sustained to the very last note.

CLIVE DAVIS

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# Breaking the great white taboo

Last week's case in the High Court was compulsive reading in South Africa.

Arthur Goldstuck reports on a country in the first stage of sexual liberation

The evidence from the Jani Allan libel trial was so explicit that, had it been a movie, it would have been instantly banned in South Africa, her homeland, for offending the morals of supposedly decent citizens.

As it was, the case enjoyed daily front-page coverage, sharing space with reports of the country's cities coming to a standstill as hundreds of thousands of African National Congress followers poured into the streets. That an argument over who slept with whom can compete for space with such important events in a country's history attests to the compulsive fascination sex has for white South Africans. It is a fascination that is born not only from prurient interest, but also from religious repressiveness and sheer ignorance. In a typical case in point, while in London the High Court heard evidence of the sexual behaviour of Ms Allan and her flammé, South African radio listeners were treated to a different kind of sex education. The country's most renowned sex therapist, Wolf Solomon, was hosting station 702's weekly *Sexually Talking* show. A woman called in and told him she had a problem with orgasms.

"What is the problem?" Solomon asked. "I have an orgasm every time I have sex. Is this abnormal?" she asked. "Every woman wishes she had your problem," Solomon answered.

Noions of what is sexually permissible and what is too permissive, what is taboo and what is acceptable have changed at an astounding pace in South Africa since the transition from apartheid to democracy began in early 1990. But even today sexually explicit films, books or magazines are regularly banned. The censors usually say that banned material "will transgress the tolerance of the reasonable person who will regard this as blatantly shameful". The catalogue of recent bannings has hardly lived up to such advertisements. They started the year by banning the highbrow graphic novels of the Hispanic-American comic book creators Gilbert and Jaime Hernandez, and most re-

cently declared the band Guns N' Roses undesirable, by banning their *Illusions I and II* albums. In each case the bannings were overturned.

The censors are unable to ban the reporting of court cases from foreign capitals. As a result, South Africans gleefully took in every nuance of the Ms Allan's case against Channel 4 Television.

Ms Allan's former employer, the Johannesburg *Sunday Times*, urged readers to look inside for "Sex, lies and steamy fantasies". A rival paper, the *Sunday Star* ran the headline: "We all thought it might turn out to be dirty, but nothing had quite prepared us for this". The daily *Star*, in a departure from its staid image, ran in-depth daily coverage, starting on the front page under headlines such as: "Through a key-hole I saw a naked bottom". The case as well as the manner in which it was reported and followed in South Africa revealed much about the sexual psyche of the white nation. It is not only a repressive society, but also a repressed one.

White South Africa exists on a virtual bedrock of Calvinism and it was the Calvinist influence that extended apartheid from the socio-political field to sexual and social prohibition. The Mixed Marriages Act and the Immorality Act, passed 40 years ago, made it illegal for a white person either to marry or sleep with someone of another racial category.

The laws were designed to protect the morals of white South Africa from the supposed evils of black flesh, although the authorities tried to sell it as a way of protecting the "cultural diversity and unique characteristics of each community". Giving a definition of "immorality" to inter-racial sex was a classic example of the manner in which the authorities abused the language of morality.

The obsession with social control that made apartheid possible also resulted in one of the most sexually inhibited societies in the world.

"South Africans are much more shocked than a European would be by open discussion of sexual topics," Mr Solomon says. In two years



Front page news: accounts of Jani Allan's libel action were avidly followed in a country where the censor still holds sway

of broadcasting on topics that had never before been raised publicly in South Africa, his *Sexually Talking* has become the most popular talk show in the country.

"Doctor Paul", the name under which listeners know Mr Solomon, is not the only source of once-taboo information. In October last year, South Africa was introduced to the concept of 087 lines — premium-rate telephone information and entertainment services. The first

087 lines were reasonably respectable and included information on sexual practices and problems, pioneered by Mr Solomon. His formula has been parodied by dozens of sleazy operators. Almost overnight, South Africa has grown up, and not everybody likes the idea.

"We are accused of breaking down moral standards," says Danie du Toit, the managing director of the state telephone and

telecommunications body, Telkom. However, he says, such services have long been available at a much higher price — via American, British and Australian premium rate services, which add the cost of international calls to the bill.

Profit is not the only motive for changing the sexual mores of a nation, however. "The 087 lines have had a tremendous impact because people suddenly have all this information a phone call

away," Mr Solomon says. "People, young men, find out about sex on the streets, or from the odd book. Mostly, they didn't find out. People suffered so much torment."

In a survey in 1987 by the Human Sciences Research Council in Pretoria, Dr Louise Olivier discovered that 69.2 per cent of English-speaking women had trouble raising the subject of sex with their parents. For the more conservative Afrikaner community, the

figure was 77.8 per cent. Sex education at school is virtually unknown. Where it has been introduced, there has been a public outcry about the corruption of children's morals.

The Calvinist doctrine is that performing sex, let alone talking about it, is almost taboo," Mr Solomon says. "We have among the highest rates of divorce [one in three marriages ends in divorce], alcoholism and child molestation in the world. That must have something to do with our repressive attitudes."

Teenage pregnancy is a scourge in schools, but statistics are shrouded in secrecy; authorities do not want the world to know how far their moral guidance has slipped. Nevertheless, a study at 16 schools in Cape Town showed that 31 per cent of matric boys (equivalent of A level students) were sexually active, and 25 per cent of matric girls.

Sanctity traditional and conservative Afrikaners, of the type found especially in rightwing movements such as the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging (AWB, or Afrikaner Resistance Movement), are regarded in South Africa as a personification of the country's sexual repressiveness.

Most of the followers of AWB leader Eugene Terre Blanche would find it impossible to accept that he could have strayed so far from his own moral puritanism as to sleep with Ms Allan.

The church and state have always justified banning nudity on the basis that it would corrupt the nation, and weaken its moral fibre. But the argument diminishes with every new statistic on divorce, child-molestation, wife-beating and rape.

"Years ago, when the Immorality Act was still in place," Mr Solomon says, "you could go to Swaziland or Lesotho, and find high and mighty churchgoers seducing black people and picking up black prostitutes. It was like forbidden fruit."

The government finally acknowledged last year that the display of naked body parts was not entirely undesirable. It allowed girly magazines to feature pin-ups that revealed that women actually had nipples. Until now, most of these magazines relied on a peculiarly South African phenomenon: nipple-stars, pasted on to photographs by the magazines' art departments.

The change came with the arrival in South Africa of a local edition of *Penthouse*. There were only hints of nipples, and all in soft focus. But the censors banned five editions in a row, only to see all the bannings lifted on appeal. Other magazines watched the appeal cases closely, and gradually began removing the nipple stars.

By June this year, unfortunately for the country's satirists, women's breasts in South Africa once again had nipples.

Are we really a nation of scroungers? The dilemma of the rich and famous who are the target of begging letters

## When something has to give

When Dame Barbara Cartland receives a begging letter, she explains to the writer that "I simply can't give money but I will give a signed copy of one of my books".

Dame Barbara receives a steady 30,000 such letters every year from around the world asking for advice or money. "The church has failed, education has gone to pot and the family doctor has disappeared so people turn to myself and Princess Diana," she says.

Begging letters have a long history. Jane Austen got them, Daniel Defoe and James Joyce sent them. Shakespeare received one asking for £30 (in the only piece of his correspondence that has survived). They have been in existence since the Middle Ages when monks sent out requests for food parcels. Now anyone with serious money or in the public domain is considered a fair target.

Last week the novelist Catherine Cookson decided to close her charitable foundation because she and her husband found begging letters so distressing. The author, who has sold more than 100 million books worldwide, says: "Britain has become a nation of beggars. I like to help but it has gone too far."

Pools winners are the most obvious recipients of begging letters. Vivian Nicholson, the winner of £152,000 in 1960, received two to three sackloads a week for months afterwards. Requests ranged from the humble: "Can you spare any old clothes or furniture?" to the tragicomic: "My cat has just died, can you buy me a pouter replacement?" Mrs Nicholson took the advice of Littlewoods and burnt them.

Littlewoods still follows this policy. Tony Hodge, the advertising and publicity manager, says: "We tell pools winners to throw them away or send them to us and we'll dispose of them. There are some people who spend their whole time making up letters so they can buy themselves a new washing machine or smart car." He says that the Littlewoods policy has worked: most pools winners now can expect about 20 letters. One recent winner complained that he had received none at all.

Claire Rayner, an expert on dealing with "tragic letters", believes that the guilt experienced by those who do receive these letters is enormous. "For the rich it is the equivalent of walking past a beggar on the street. It makes you feel awful but there are so many scary stories you do not know whether to give," she says.

Mrs Rayner always replies to letters and says you get a sixth sense about the liars. "Some are so skilful that you know they are professionals. I get a lot from Nigeria saying I have chosen you to be my mother. Please look after me and educate me. I have to say I am sorry I already have a lot of children. The charlatans take their words straight out of romantic novels. It was a dark, bleak night or 'I am quivering in the cold' are a giveaway."

Few people willingly admit to giving donations to a begging letter. As Richard Branson's agent says: "We get 15,000 letters a month and I don't want to talk about the issue because we will probably get another 15,000. The money they ask for already comes to twice our annual turnover and the quarter of a million charities in Britain keep us busy enough."

Mrs Rayner can't help herself. "One woman didn't even ask for money, she just said she wanted a grave stone for her baby. I wanted to pay for it. She sent me a photo afterwards and kept in touch," she says. "Christmas is the

worst. The poverty in Britain breaks my heart. I have put a lot of £5 notes in envelopes."

Dame Barbara's advice to Mrs Cookson is simple. Give assistance not money. "I have four secretaries here and one in London. They know the answers to most problems now and are equipped with lists of charities and counselling agencies," she says. Though this assumes that you have enough money for a clutch of assistants.

One letter recently was so pitiful it nearly broke her resolve, but Ms Cartland has another tactic. "I rang the local vicar and told them about this poor, starving family. He went round to the house which was actually very opulent and saw them all in the kitchen writing begging letters," she says.

Companies such as Sainsbury's are often asked for products rather than money and any family that makes it into the 100 richest people in Britain is a target. Five thousand individuals a year write to the company. Although they answer all letters, the Sainsbury family, through their charitable trust, has developed a stringent policy of only sponsoring charities, never individuals, and it sticks to the arts and community investment. But the trust still needs two managers and four secretaries to cope with all the letters and telephone calls it receives.

The Queen, as the richest and best known woman in the country, receives "vast quantities of personal letters", according to her press office. "All letters go to her desk but she feels she cannot respond to individual cases and gives her money instead to charities."

Last year the *Sun* newspaper sent begging letters to 11 chairmen in industry who had received substantial pay rises. The letter purported to be from a diabetic mother of

two whose husband was jobless and who wanted to take her children on a day trip to Alton Towers funfair. Six said no and four did not reply. Only Robin Leigh-Pemberton, the governor of the Bank of England, sent a personal cheque.

If most of these letters fall on deaf ears, why do people write them? Cecilia Boggis, the advertising manager of *Private Eye* magazine, who deals with 30 entries a week in her Eye-Need column of classifieds, says: "It's a bit like gambling. You might just be the lucky one."

The key to a successful plea, according to Miss Boggis, is originality. For just under £30 Carl Proctor, an independent producer, secured £13,000 investment from an individual after he placed an ad in the Eye-Need column in July 1991. His plea, reading "Angels wanted for West End rock 'n' roll musical", got replies from two girls wanting parts as celestial bodies, a Hells Angel offering his services and a substantial donation which allowed *Good Golly Miss Molly* its four-month run in the West End. "I found I raised £60,000 without too much difficulty," Mr Proctor says.

One benefactor, who refused to be named for fear of more letters, said that although it is wiser to give to a charity you do not get the same glow from impersonal giving.



Helping hand: Robin Leigh-Pemberton

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Alice Thomson

## TAKING TO THE STREETS



From Notting Hill to Edinburgh, carnival and street theatre have become part of the British way of life.

The TES reports this Friday.

TES

THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT  
75p Every Friday



The giving has to stop: Catherine Cookson says "Britain has become a nation of beggars... it has gone too far"

150

The bandanna, once the cowboy's trademark, has been transformed into the fashion craze of the season, reports Liz Smith

# Romantics queue up to tie the knot

**B**rue Weber, the American fashion photographer, has worn a bandanna on his head for years. He knots it at each corner for a Margate beach look, a style which has singularly failed to catch on. The traditional knotted hanky of the McGill seaside postcard is, however, about the only way in which the bandanna is not being worn this summer.

The present craze for wearing a colourful cotton handkerchief, gypsy-style on the head, knotted at the neck—and on your dog's neck, too, instead of a collar—or twisted around wrist and ankle, is adding a raffish air to the summer uniforms of T-shirt, denim shorts and jeans. For a humble cotton square the bandanna is managing to send out a remarkable network of signals. It was originally worn by cowboys for practical purposes, folded in a triangle around the neck and tied with the knot at the back. It could then be pulled up over the mouth as protection against dust. Now it has become



Ponytail-bandanna

the freedom flag for every romantic who bankers after unlimited horizons. Even if it ends up being knotted inside a tweed hacking jacket rather than a Buffalo Bill fringed-back suede cowboy shirt, the bandanna reaffirms a longing for a more rugged life and the chance to "ride in the ridge where the West commences".

Californian hippies in the "right-on" 1970s, male and female, picked up the idea and wore bandannas knotted at the back of the head like gypsy scarves, and twisted them into headbands across the forehead. The Native American feather, an optional extra, somewhat confused the imagery. American bikers recklessly dispensing with crash helmets—not statutory motorbike gear in the United States—wear bandannas to keep their hair out of their eyes. British bikers have to make do with a token bandanna, tied on the wrist or inside the collar of their leathers.

When Pat Cash, John McEnroe and other floppy-haired tennis players donned bandannas Indian-style, it was seen to be as much a declaration of independence against sartorial rules imposed by the international tennis authorities as a simple expedient to catch sweat and keep hair out of their eyes.

Guy Forget, the French tennis player, manages to wear his bandanna with more natural aplomb. You just know that he does not even bother to look in a mirror when he knots his Ghane-blue bandanna inside the neck of his Lacoste tennis shirt.

The French, being a nation of dog-lovers, can also take credit for establishing the vogue for laid-back pooches everywhere—to sport a wardrobe of cotton bandannas. Rather more practically, babies have taken to wearing them

in place of the catch-all bib.

Comfort is not always the priority when it comes to establishing a fad as a fashion fact. The nicely broken-in bandanna, however, when it has been tumbled a few times in a hot wash and pressed, becomes more comfortable to wear and easier to knot than any Hermès silk square.

There is now the designer bandanna. Ralph Lauren, who has made the old Frontier country the inspiration for much of his collection every season—he retreats regularly to his 13,000-acre Colorado ranch for inspiration—signs his name on humble bandannas as well as using the bandanna dot and paisley print on chambray shirts and skirts. Giorgio Armani seems

to have picked up the idea of marrying a knotted gypsy bandanna with a baseball cap. For next summer he has invented a hybrid in red and white polka-dotted cotton with baseball-cap peaked brim and bandanna knot combined. Spotted cotton handkerchiefs count as bandannas, although the originals were printed with a paisley pattern using a tie-dye process known in 16th-century India as "bandhu". Hence bandanna.

Peter Rogers, who runs the second-hand department of American Classics, a clothing shop at the bend of the King's Road in Chelsea, west London, says that some now buy them, half a dozen at a time, as napkins for dinner parties and let guests take them away as presents.

He believes that, like the "burnbag", the fashion was established by skateboarders, who wear bandannas tied around wrists or ankles, or gypsy-style with long hair and pigtails. "You do not have to wash your hair for weeks if you wear a bandanna, and your mum never knows," Mr Rogers says.

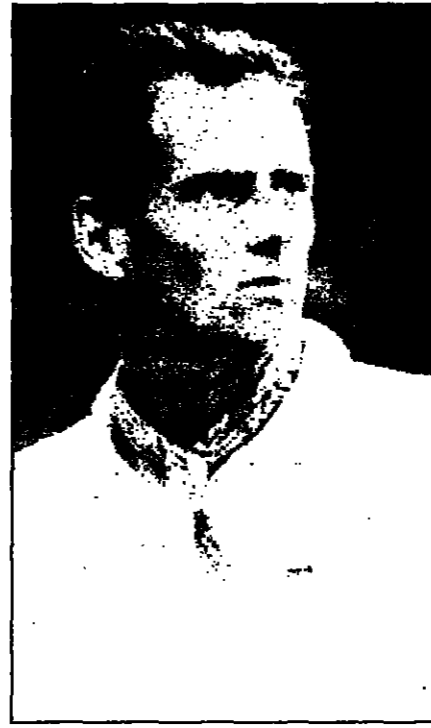
American Classics sells basic cotton cowboy bandannas from the US at £2.50 each. Prices for much-prized second-hand Levi's or Osh Kosh bandannas, however, are up to £15. At Flip in Covent Garden, central London, vintage Harley Davidson bandannas, lovingly framed, decorate the walls like works of pop art. These and Union Jack bandannas, and a wide choice of other designs, sell for £2.

Brian Roe, from Flip, sees today's bandwagon bandannas as tribal totems. "Wearing a bandanna says you are a rebel. It is a throwback to 1969 Woodstock," Mr Roe says. "Surfers and skateboarders may wear them for practical reasons, but the present craze comes from the music scene, from Axl Rose and Guns N' Roses."

Bandannas are also used as the tribal "colours" of Californian street gangs. Bloods are identified by their red bandannas, the Crips by blue. And a bandanna stuffed in the back pocket of your Levi's can indicate, according to its colour, your sexual tastes.



If you've got it, flaunt it: the versatile bandanna is no longer a fad, but has become a fashion fact. The small cotton square can be twisted and turned into a style to suit nearly every occasion. Clockwise from top left, an Italian tourist in Covent Garden sports a cowboy-knot; Adrian Norris, a graphic designer, prefers the gypsy look; John McEnroe, the tennis player, goes for the Indian knot while Guy Forget, another tennis player, wears his bandanna as a necktie. Brian Roe,



from Flip in Covent Garden, is another to choose the gypsy look while Kate Papineau, aged seven months, takes a more practical approach and swaps her bib for a bandanna. Even animals can be followers of fashion; Missie Gibbs, centre, models a raffish little number in place of a collar. With the emergence of the designer bandanna, the little cotton square has come a long way from the days when it was the preserve of the cowboy galloping into the sunset.

PASSPORT TO FRANCE COMPETITION: The Times, in association with Relais & Châteaux, offers five luxury breaks for two in France

## A weekend of luxury

TODAY The Times invites you to take advantage of the first of five opportunities to win a luxury weekend break for two at a Relais & Châteaux hotel of your choice in France with return flights and car hire included.

Regarded by many as the world's finest chain of hotels and restaurants, Relais & Châteaux is offering readers a weekend for two including table d'hôte dinner, accommodation and breakfast with service and tax included. Winners may select from a choice of 123 hotels of character throughout France. Relais & Châteaux originated in France and was created by seven like-minded hoteliers in



1954. As well as the châteaux, the group has grown to include mills, abbeys, manor houses and important houses that have been converted into comfortable hotels or elegant restaurants. Beyond that of quality, the philosophy now, as then, is based on the five "Cs" of the association: character, courtesy, calm, charm and cuisine. From a gastronomic experience in Alsace to a late-season break on the Côte d'Azur, from the golf courses of Brittany to the culture and beauty of the Loire, Relais & Châteaux offers hospitality at its best. Most Relais & Châteaux hotels are to be found in unspoilt countryside and are

renowned for their exceptionally high culinary standards.

The chain offers four categories of comfort recognisable by the colours of their shields. Green represents the standard of a pleasant and simple country residence. Blue stands for a fine comfortable house in pleasing surroundings and yellow for the refined comfort of a superb residence, while the hotels with the gold shield offer the deluxe service of a sumptuous establishment.

Many of the hotels carry an additional red shield, representing recognition for outstanding cuisine and the consequent award of two or three Michelin stars.

The winners of today's competition will receive a complimentary copy of the Relais & Châteaux International Guide 1992 (which also lists 20 British establishments) and the corresponding European road map, valued at £7.50. The International Guide provides all the relevant information you will need to help you select your hotel. Return flights to



Paris or Lyons will be provided by TAT European Airlines, the French independent airline, which has recently launched new international scheduled flights from Gatwick serving Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris, and Lyons. Established more than 20 years ago, TAT European



Airlines serves more than 30 destinations in France and uses one of Europe's most modern fleets. Competition winners will travel in TAT's new business class cabin, providing enhanced levels of comfort and high quality in-flight service. In addition, Hertz France,

one of the leading providers of car rental worldwide for almost 75 years, is pleased to offer the winners the use of a Peugeot 605 for the weekend.

The winners will enjoy a Friday and Saturday night at a Relais & Châteaux hotel of their choice between September 15 and December 31, 1992. To enter, simply answer the question below and send your answer on a postcard (to arrive by August 14) to: The Times/Relais & Châteaux Competition, Day 1, Promotions Department, PO Box 481, Virginia St, London E1 9BD. The first correct answer drawn on Friday, August 14, will win the luxury weekend break. The editor's decision is final. Times competition rules apply, and are available on request.

### TODAY'S QUESTION:

Who murdered the French revolutionary leader Marat in his bath?

● The Passport to France page will appear occasionally, rather than daily, until the end of August.

## Grandeur in the pines

One of the finest hotels in the group

The Cap Ferrat peninsula, between Nice and Monte Carlo, is one of the most exclusive parts of the Riviera—a region of very expensive villas. On the point is the little port of St-Jean-Cap-Ferrat, and here you will find one of the most luxurious hotels in the Relais & Châteaux group, the Bel Air Cap-Ferrat. It is the old Grand Hotel of the town, now totally modernised and fitted out to make it the match of its Californian cousin, the Bel-Air of Los Angeles.

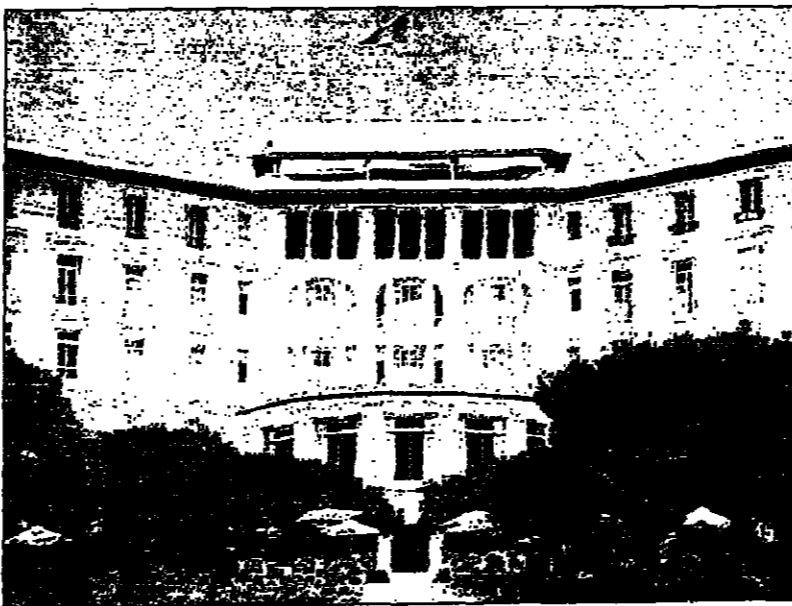
The bedrooms have splendid views either of either the Mediterranean or the scented pines in the hotel's own park. There is a poolside restaurant, and a piano bar named after one of the well-known residents of the Côte, the writer Somerset Maugham. The yachts of the famous glide in and out of the marina, and at the edge of the town is an art gallery, the He-de-France Mu-

seum, which contains the paintings collected by the Rothschild heiress Madame Ephrussi.

In nearby Villefranche, there is a chapel decorated by Jean Cocteau; beyond it you find the great sweep of the Baie des Anges and the city of Nice. On the other side of Cap-Ferrat is Monte Carlo, with its casino and opera house (you can have a bet between the acts) and the comfortable resort of Menton. Winter has its charms here, especially during the Menton festival, at which great sculptures are made out of oranges and lemons.

### WEDNESDAY

Your second chance to answer a question and win a luxury weekend stay for two at a Relais & Châteaux hotel



Majestic: the Hôtel Bel Air Cap-Ferrat, surrounded by a 20-acre park

# EDUCATION TIMES

## In the good old study time

Summertime, and the schools are open.  
Philip Howard reports on a profitable sideline for institutions of learning

The fortnight that straddles the beginning of August is the fortnight of Britain's fastest-growing academic institution: the summer school. There have always been such goings-on during the summer hols, but they were restricted to the elite undergraduates from the older universities putting the polish on their final examinations next year, with their tutors, in some alpine chalet or gloomy Hebridean fastness remote from the temptations of the world.

Because of increased leisure, increased pressure on schools and universities to earn money rather than lose it for the summer, and because of increased thirst for learning or exam results, or even an urge to get the young out of the house at some safe and useful activity for a fortnight, the British summer school has now become democratised and popularised.

For the next fortnight, summer schools constitute a mass academic industry. From Aberdeen to Exeter, there are Open University summer schools, courses for foreign students to study British culture and history, and specialist study groups in every discipline known to academe.

At Eton College, for example, among other exotic activities there is a sporting summer school for about 80 athletic or would-be-athletic young aged between 12 and 15. During the day they are coached in their sports by such masters as David Wilkie for swimming, the magnificent pools, Daley Thompson at the running track, and John Hollis on the field.

In the evening Dickie Davies, a television presenter, takes the m through "A Question of Sport", and at night they learn that the Battle of Waterloo was really won by endurance learnt on the iron

bedsteads of Eton. At Aberystwyth, the summer workshop in Greek and Latin caters for all sorts and conditions of student, from the third-age grey panthers who are just beginning, to young gazelles on their way to double firsts.

The curriculum is as eclectic as the scholars, providing a great lake in which elephants can swim and lambs can paddle.

The school even has room for a scholarly seminar on "A Text of St Basil", as well as a video of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, and me encouraging them to read a good newspaper, such as *The Times*.

The Greek summer school run by the Joint Association of Classical Teachers celebrated its 25th anniversary this year with a feast, for which the *maximi atque optimi* of classical studies turned out, led by Sir Kenneth Dover himself.

As evidence of the breaking of barriers across the old Roman Empire, there are a number of students from Thracian and points east: two Czech students from Charles University, Prague, three Polish students from Wrocław, and others from all over the basin of western civilisation, counting the United States.

This year, while other young are on the beach or at the camping site, there are 241 students working harder than they ever have in their lives in the wooded seclusion of Brynston School, near Blandford Forum in Dorset.

They are taught by the brightest and best teachers of Greek in British schools and universities, among whom Eric Handley, the Regius Professor of Greek at Cambridge, and Professor Malcolm Wilcock of University College, London, are just another couple of stars in the bright constellation of the staff room.

Brynston summer school 1992



breaks down as 150 females and 91 males. There are 39 from maintained schools, 183 from independent, 16 at university, as undergraduates or postgraduates, and three are already working in the world outside scholarship.

There are 45 beginners, 86 intermediate, and 110 advanced, of a standard to keep visiting amateurs nervously on their toes.

You can come to Brynston or Aber hardy knowing alpha from omega, and leave able to read a bit of Homer and other classic texts. You can come as a scholar and leave as an even riper and brighter

scholar, having had your mind stretched by the best Hellenists and wisest in Britain. Bursaries worth £11,300 have been given to 73 applicants to make sure that no scholar is kept away from learning by poverty.

Starting from scratch, the students always play a tragedy in Greek at the end of the fortnight in Brynston's Greek theatre, looking across the valley to the woods a mile away. This year they are doing the *Andromache*, Euripides' powerful piece first produced at the beginning of the Peloponnesian War in 431 BC.

Twenty-five centuries later its black propaganda about Spartan Menelaus will have powerful contemporary resonances for those emerging from the Cold War.

It is politically correct garbage to complain about the state of British education and the ignorance of the modern generation. At summer schools round the land, students of many countries and talents are giving the lie to fashionable whingeing by working for fun, while the rest of the world is on holiday.

For their future and ours, it is a thoroughly inspiring spectacle.

## More faith in the future

Has the era of secularism had its day?

Choice and Diversity, the government's white paper on education, gives emphasis to religious and moral values. This is to be applauded by everyone concerned with the future of education and the quality and cohesion of society itself.

Over the past 30 years, moral and spiritual education in maintained schools has suffered perhaps more than any other part of the curriculum. Secular liberalism has ensured the destruction of confident Christian education, and its replacement by a detached and superficial inspection of a display of religions and philosophies.

No one faith or set of values has been presented as demanding loyalty and commitment, except (at worst) a creed of contempt for religion and ethics in general. For those who understand the supreme importance of education for creating a civilised society it comes as no surprise to find a country with little moral or religious coherence or confidence.

Such a decline has proved less pronounced in the independent sector. Many schools have a Christian foundation, and at least a reverence for their founders and traditions has protected the public schools from so complete a betrayal of the faith of our forefathers.

The national curriculum, as well as the provision for grant-maintained schools, promise a radical improvement in the academic achievements of the state sector. This will reduce the differences in standards between maintained and independent schools.

Furthermore, the white paper's attention to religious and moral education promises to

bridge the gap between the two sectors in this area, too, an achievement which can have profound and far-reaching effects on our society.

It would be a mistake to suggest that independent schools have survived intact the onslaughts of secularism since the 1960s. In perhaps a majority of public schools, compulsory chapel has given way to voluntary. Increasing curricular pressures and the introduction of new subjects threaten to squeeze RE into a very cramped corner of the timetable. In addition, independent schools have not enjoyed the patronage of the Church of England in the way that they used to. Over the past generation, too many of the church's leaders have been at best embarrassed and at worst hostile to the public schools. This has been spurred as much by the egalitarian spirit of the 1960s and 1970s as by any theological insight.

Mr Patten's white paper could provide a potent opportunity for independent and maintained schools to move closer together in religious and moral education, and for the Church of England to involve itself with both sectors in helping to establish a new and essentially Christian syllabus and ethos.

There is an opportunity, too, for the church to play its part again as a national church and to escape from a sectarian straitjacket. Here, instead, is a chance to help shape the hearts and minds of a whole generation, and to rebuild a nation that understands and appreciates a religion which is our heritage and the source of our future liberty, culture and cohesion.

● The Rev John Witheridge is Conduct of Eton College.

### VIEWPOINT

John Witheridge



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## EDUCATION

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Further particulars from Director of Personnel Services, The University, PO Box 594, Firth Court, Western Bank, Sheffield S10 2UH (Tel: 0742 768555 ext 4144) to whom applications, including a full CV and the names/addresses of three referees (three copies of all documents) should be sent by 1 September 1992. Ref: R190.

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**continued on next page**



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## IN THE NEWS

### Fishing for a fortune abroad

If John Baird's life story could be captured in a phrase it would be "one fortune good, two fortunes better". For the man who says he did not go into business to make money has turned out to be singularly, or more accurately plurally, good at doing exactly that.

An Essex man born and bred, his first fortune came from what is virtually the county business houses. The Brentwood estate agency he founded in the fifties grew with successive housing booms. When Baird's Eves came to the stock market in 1982, via an offer for sale that was 24.5 times over-subscribed, it was valued at about £7 million. The Essex business community knows a bargain when it subscribes for one: three years later Baird's Eves was bought by Hambros Bank for £77 million.

But by then the second string to Mr Baird's bow was humming. Established in the late sixties, when he converted his Tudor residence (the Moat House, Brentwood) into the county's first four-star hotel, his recipe for success was simple: serve the local business community and the chances are the same people will bring you their weddings and anniversaries. The formula has clearly worked, not



Baird: Essex-bred

just in Britain but in continental Europe, where Queens Moat Houses has been expanding for the past five years. From a 50-strong Britain-only chain in 1982, Queens Moat now has more than 190 hotels, almost half on the Continent, and property assets of about £2 billion.

Despite all this, Mr Baird, 62, is not an altogether happy man. This may be the third recession Queens Moat has survived but its severity is unprecedented. The three-day conference becomes one day, the 125-guest wedding is cut to 75. Spending is sharply down and competition is fierce. The expansion on to the more affluent Continent will rarely look more timely.

Nor can he find much solace in his passion for fishing, with even his beloved Wye affected by falling water levels. The big question at Queens Moat is which will come first — the rains or the recovery?

MATTHEW BOND

## CBI says wages have stopped chasing prices

By ROSS TYEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH companies have severed the link between pay and inflation that has dogged national competitiveness for decades, the Confederation of British Industry believes. The CBI argues that pay is no longer contributing significantly to inflation.

If this is accepted, it will add to pressure on the government to stimulate the economy rather than continuing to focus on inflation.

Provisional figures from the CBI's pay databank suggest pay rises in the April to June period averaged 4.3 per cent for the third successive quarter. With productivity expected to climb at an annual rate of 3.2 per cent, pay settlements in manufacturing are now largely self-financing.

The employers' organisation maintained its tradition-

al caution about reading too much into provisional figures that may later be corrected. However, it is clear that officials believe Britain is approaching a turning point in the post-war industrial climate.

"Pay behaviour is settling into the non-inflationary patterns set by our most successful industrial competitors," said Robbie Gilbert, CBI director of employment affairs.

"Pay is being driven more by business factors — the need to keep prices competitive, to defend profitability, and to win orders — than by inflationary pressures. If that pattern can be maintained into the upturn, the wage-price spiral will be broken to the permanent benefit of UK competitiveness and jobs."

Confirmation of a further rise in the number of jobs is expected on Thursday, when

the department of employment publishes the July jobs total. City forecasters expect a rise of about 25,000, taking the number claiming benefit to almost 2.75 million.

There may also be new confirmation from the index of average earnings of a narrowing gap between pay and productivity. The CBI settlement figures are sharply below pay inflation as measured by the index of average manufacturing earnings, compiled by the department of employment, which showed a rise of 6.4 per cent in the year to May. But average manufacturing earnings are also falling, recording a one-point drop since April, the biggest month-on-month fall for a decade.

Andrew Sentance, CBI economics director, said the gap was partly explained by "drift", the additions to basic pay caused by bonuses and overtime.

But the average earnings figure also reflected settlements a year ago, whereas the pay databank numbers indicated rises that would affect the coming 12 months. At a time of falling pay deals, settlements were bound to be lower.

Mr Sentance said many manufacturers had succeeded in maintaining productivity improvements over the past few years even though falling volumes tended to increase fixed costs per unit of output.

He said: "I think prospects for productivity are good, and that once output starts to rise, we will be improving our productivity faster than our main competitors, and certainly faster than Germany."

CBI statisticians are especially encouraged by the apparent disappearance of any "going rate" for pay settlements. According to provisional CBI figures, one pay deal in four since last August has been at or below 3.5 per cent.

A quarter have been in the 3.5 to 4.5 per cent range and a similar proportion between 4.5 and 5.5 per cent. Only one manufacturing deal in five has been over 5.5 per cent. In the 12 months ended June, the rise in the retail prices index was 3.9 per cent.

The databank figures also show a fall in service sector settlements. During the first half, settlements averaged 4.3 per cent, down from 6 per cent during the second half of last year and 7.1 per cent in the same period of 1991.

Economic View, page 17      Leading article, page 11

## Lloyds pins revival hope on South East

By ANATOLE KALETSKY, ECONOMICS EDITOR

THE south east of England is likely to lead Britain out of recession, but a recovery will depend on an improvement in the housing market and a reduction in the "strong urge to save" among consumers in the region. Although there are no signs of such a turnaround, the preconditions are in place, according to a report published today by Lloyds Bank.

Lloyds notes that the ratio of house prices to incomes in the South East is at its lowest for 20 years, while houses are far less affordable in other regions of the country. Consumer confidence is also highest in the South East, although surveys show that general confidence in the economic outlook is mitigated by a belief that this is a good time to save, rather than spend.

Lloyds also argues that the South East's dependency on service industries has not been a factor in its relatively poor performance during the recession. The South East's manufacturing companies, which tend to be smaller and newer than those in other areas, have been responsible for most job losses, while services in the region have continued to do relatively well.

By contrast, an analysis by Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank, argues that house prices in the south of England will fall by a further 5 per cent

and that no recovery in housing is likely until 1994.

A separate report out today, from Infolink, the consumer credit assessment service, says there is no sign of a consistent recovery in spending confidence, although it notes a small increase in enquiries for credit from retail stores on the same period last year.

The reports are published at the start of what promises to be another trying week for the government, with sterling languishing at its lowest since ERM entry, and official statistics focusing attention on the economy's parlous state.

The official tally of industrial production for June, due on Thursday, will fuel arguments over whether the recession is continuing to deepen or whether a bottom was reached in the second quarter, as hinted by government cyclical indicators last week.

According to MMS International, the investment research firm, the City expects manufacturing output to be unchanged from May, while industrial production, which includes energy output, is expected to show a fall of 0.2 per cent. Other statistics this week include producer and retail price data, expected to show little change in annual rates of inflation.

## Libya reveals joint venture with Lonrho

By OUR FINANCIAL STAFF

LONRHO, the conglomerate led by Tiny Rowland, is reported to have reached agreement with the Libyan Arab Foreign Investment Company to form a joint venture to develop assets in Africa. Omar Murtasir, Libya's minister of finance, is quoted in *The Sunday Times* as saying: "We have formed a joint venture with Lonrho to invest and develop our combined existing interests in Africa."

If it goes ahead, the ar-

rangement is expected to include Lonrho's 45 per cent stake in the Ashanti gold mine in Ghana. Such a deal, though fraught with political controversy, could help reduce Lonrho's borrowings and enable the group to develop its assets faster.

The Libyan authorities already have business links with Lonrho. This year, the Libyan state investment company put up £177.5 million for a 33 per cent stake in Lonrho's

Metropole Hotel subsidiary. Paul Spicer, a director of Lonrho, said: "We have signed no agreement to sell Ashanti, nor have we signed any agreement to sell any of our other assets."

Mr Murtasir explained: "Lonrho has extensive holdings in Africa and we have a lot of activities in Africa. We said if we put our forces together — his relationships in Africa and our financial resources — we can have a win-

ning venture." Mr Murtasir told *The Sunday Times* that the venture's turnover could be "tens of billions of dollars". Lonrho is reported to believe that output from the Ashanti mine, 55 per cent owned by Ghana's government, could be doubled with an investment of \$300 million.

Libya is also reported to be interested in Lonrho's cobalt and copper reserves in Zaire, as well as the Safari Club, a luxury hotel in Kenya.

## City men draw a blank as maiden bowls 'em over

MARC ASPLAND



Victor Blank (left), chairman and chief executive of Charterhouse, and Michael Sorkin, vice-chairman of Hambros Bank, enjoy a break during a six-a-side cricket tournament at Mr Blank's Oxfordshire estate yesterday (Jon Ashworth writes). Teams from Schroder Securities, Warburg Securities, Lazard Brothers, Smith New Court, Charterhouse and Hambros entered into the spirit of the occasion, helped in the battle for the City slickers' cricket crown by several Lord's Taverners celebrity cricketers. They included Mike Denness, former Kent and England cricketer, Eddie Butler, Welsh rugby international, and Phil Edmonds, Middlesex and England cricketer, who was bowled first ball. Leslie Crowther, president of Lord's Taverners, helped umpire the event. Warburg beat Smith New Court to win the crown, with Schroders third. The award for best bowler went to Alison Carnwath of Schroders, the only woman in any team, who took three wickets in one over. Mr Blank's celebrity cricket days are an annual highlight of the City's social calendar.

## Cheltenham tops building societies performance table

By LINDSAY COOK, MONEY EDITOR

FOR the third year running, the Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society has topped the building societies' performance survey carried out by UBS Phillips & Drew.

Cheltenham & Gloucester, the sixth-largest society, has also beaten Abbey National, the building society that converted to a bank in 1989, for the first time.

John Wriglesworth, author of the report, says that compared on the same factors of profitability, capital strength, market shares and growth, Cheltenham & Gloucester had improved its position at the end of 1991. "The society continues to go from strength to strength."

Mr Wriglesworth argues that slower growth in the mortgage market is likely to lead to the number of building societies falling by more than half, to no more than 40, by the end of the century.

Many smaller societies will be weeded out, he suggests, though none of the top 20 is likely to be rescued through a merger. The survey could mark a turning point in Cheltenham & Gloucester's history as the £15 billion society looks at what its next move could be. Andrew Longhurst, its chief executive, is not wedded to the concept of mutualism if his society's growth is stifled by it. The

reliance to increase the wholesale funding limit from 40 per cent to 50 per cent could soon become a problem for Cheltenham & Gloucester unless it can merge with a large society or convert to a company. Too small to consider a conversion alone like the Abbey, Cheltenham & Gloucester would be a fine acquisition for a foreign bank or insurance company.

Mr Longhurst has been mentioned as a potential leader of the Halifax Building Society after 10 years at the helm of C&G. It is not beyond the bounds of possibility that the Halifax, with assets of £58.7 billion, and Cheltenham & Gloucester could make a good team. A merger would make sure that the Halifax remained the largest mortgage lender. Abbey National's assets are creeping up at £57.4 billion.

The Leeds Permanent Building Society has moved up from eighth position in 1990 to second. The most improved society is the National & Provincial, also under new management, which has moved up 11 positions to take eighth place. The Derbyshire is up seven places to sixth and Bristol & West up six places to 10. The Halifax, the largest society, has risen four places to fifth in the table.

The report says that at the end of 1991 building societies held more than 60 per cent of the nation's mortgage loans and looked after 47 per cent of its liquid savings. Their total assets exceeded £230 billion, sharing a total of 32 million personal customers.

The guide gives an immediate indication of the strength of societies and also reveals how their provisions compare with their arrears.

These are not always clear, though. For example, the Bristol & West merged with the Chesham on December 31. This means that the Chesham's provisions are not included in the table but its arrears are.

Comment, page 17

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## CHANGE ON WEEK

US dollar	1.9270 (+0.0005)
German mark	2.8275 (+0.0131)
Exchange index	92.0 (-0.3)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	

## STOCK MARKETS

FT 30 share	1753.3 (-50.5)
FT-SE 100	2350.1 (-49.5)
New York Dow Jones	3332.18 (-61.6)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge	15518.27 (-392.01)

## Encouraging gloom over share prices

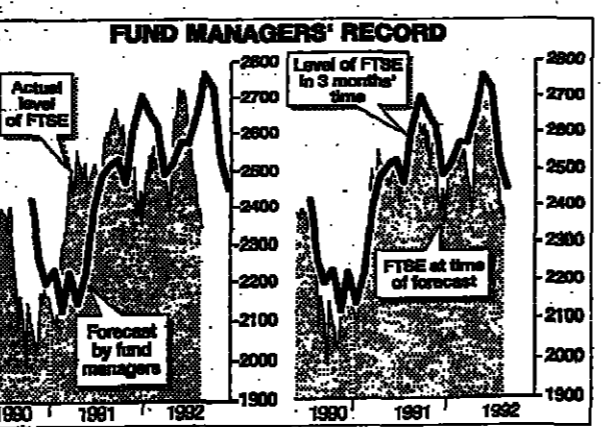
By GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

IF THOSE who make the big investment decisions are right, the outlook for shares on the stock market is peculiarly gloomy. Fund managers are more pessimistic about the outlook for share prices than at any time since March 1991.

Private investors need not despair, however, for professionals paid to invest billions seem to be as much affected by the mood of the moment as armchair amateurs acting on headlines of stock market booms and slumps.

The August survey of fund managers, conducted last week by Gallup for Smith New Court, the securities house, shows fewer expecting to invest more in London quoted shares than at any time since the monthly survey started two years ago.

Only 7 per cent more are planning to invest extra mon-



ey than those who expect to reduce their holdings. This compares with a balance of 49 per cent putting new money into British shares just four months ago. Far more are planning to direct their funds into foreign bonds, gilt-edged stocks or continental equities.

The survey covered 97 institutions managing £550 billion of funds, suggesting that share

prices can expect little help from their most vital source of support. Not surprisingly, the managers are far less optimistic about share price prospects.

Since three-fifths of their funds are in British shares, managers tend to be inventively optimistic. Even so, on average, they expect the FTSE 100 share index to rise by only 5 per cent to 2,462 over

the next three months, the lowest forecast for 17 months, since when the index has seen a peak of 2,738 in May this year, only to fall 14 per cent to 2,350 since.

Their gloom is shared by share chartists, many of whom project recent falls as the start of a new bear market and predict that, after a short-term rally, prices could fall a further 10 per cent.

As the chart shows, however, fund managers in the SNC-Gallup survey have a less than brilliant record at prediction. Their forecasts bear a close relation to the level and trend of share prices at the time they are made. Three months later, the actual level of the index is often completely different from what they expected. Indeed, the armchair investor might conclude that they cannot look beyond their noses and that the amateur might have done better by taking the opposite view.



## ECONOMIC VIEW

## Tougher times for building societies

Retreat by the Treasury averted a critical moment for many building societies in the stand-off over competition from National Savings. The government could not afford to be seen to be pushing up mortgage rates. The affair exposed a more fundamental dilemma for many building societies, which will not be so easily resolved. If market forces operated logically, a good part of the nation's savings should be diverted over the next two or three years from the housing market, where they are not immediately needed, into financing the public sector borrowing requirement, which is as embarrassingly buoyant as the demand for mortgages is slack. The idea that building societies are somehow entitled to some self-defined fair share of savings is nonsensical. Instead, rationalisation among societies may have to be accelerated, perhaps halving their numbers to between 40 and 45 by the time state finances are back on an even keel.

The excesses in the housing market that preceded today's slump owed much to the quiescence of National Savings in the years of public sector surplus and the neglect of retail savings by the main banks. Once the societies come under competitive pressure, especially from such a non-commercial state competitor, the vulnerability of their balance sheets is exposed. A sharp downturn in net deposit inflows could readily be accommodated at a slack time. As soon as humps of mobile funds started flowing out of societies, alarm bells rang, threatening higher mortgage costs for millions of existing borrowers.

A typical big building society balance sheet has about 83 per cent of assets tied up in mortgages and about 13 per cent in liquid assets. A high street bank, by contrast, might have nearly a quarter of its assets in liquid or readily realisable form, while loans and advances, many of which are more swiftly recallable than mortgage loans, account for two thirds.

This traditional illiquidity of building societies hardly matters if they can rely on a stable base of savings deposited at branches by regular customers. The more that they operate like banks or rely on footloose funds, the less appropriate this structure looks. Many societies, from Halifax, the largest, to the more modest Derbyshire and scores of small societies, still basically rely on their traditional base, though services to depositors are more complex and bank-like. As banks realised earlier, this is expensive in terms of inflexible overhead costs and can limit growth rates, though the Midland has stopped a branch closure programme for fear of losing too many regular customers.

Other societies have exploited their relatively recent ability to tap wholesale money markets and compete more actively in the intensively competitive market for substantial lumps of short to medium-term capital, whether from individuals or private businesses, which do not require heavy branch overheads. For instance, Cheltenham and Gloucester, sixth-biggest but the top-performing society on most financial tests, manages with far fewer branches than its nearest competitors. Wholesale funds need not be less stable, indeed they can be tailored better to fit the average life of mortgages. The downside, as C&G found when it had to react first to the high National Savings bond rate, is that the cost of money can fluctuate more widely, at times putting such societies at a disadvantage that compensates for lower overheads.

Future rationalisation is therefore likely to go beyond the traditional absorption of smaller societies that cannot compete on services or cope with losses in housing recessions. There will surely be a polarisation between those that are essentially marketers of mortgages, which naturally sit as part of bigger banks or larger financial groups, and those that concentrate on their traditional role as savings institutions. This might produce some surprises.

Gloomy forecasts by the hapless clearer mean the time is ripe for steps to quicken the imminent upturn, says Anatole Kaletsky

Sir John Quinton, the chairman of Barclays Bank, declared last week that two more years would have to pass before the British economy showed any clear signs of recovery. Given Barclays' record of being caught napping by economic cycles, Sir John's prediction of never-ending recession should probably be greeted as one of the "green shoots" of economic spring.

Using a Barclays forecast as a contrary indicator seems sensible not only because of the bank's lamentable lending decisions, but also because of its choice of top personnel. After all, the Barclays economics department was headed until recently by Alan Budd, now chief economic adviser to the government. Nigel Lawson and Sir Peter Middleton, the Permanent Secretary of the Treasury who put sterling into the ERM at DM2.95, both parachuted safely out of the economy they had so skillfully sabotaged into the comfort of the Barclays boardroom. Putting it all together, a forecast of perpetual recession from Sir John Quinton adds up to a bankable guarantee that the recession is all but over.

This message does, in fact, finally seem to be emerging from the statistical indicators. Most of the economic and political developments in the three weeks since I went on holiday have been quite consistent with the theme of my last Economic View, that the darkest hour is just before the dawn. Politicians and businessmen have whipped themselves into a panic about never-ending recession. Economists and investment analysts who worshipped dutifully before the ERM totter for two years have suddenly experienced Pauline conversions and write of inevitable devaluation. The prime minister's obsessive desire to make Britain the world's lowest-inflation economy (or economic graveyard) is suddenly being exposed to the despatch "they long desired". Yet almost unnoticed, the economic statistics have gradually been improving.

The charts here tell the story. The first one, which shows the index of coincident indicators compiled by the Central Statistical Office, suggests that the recession, as formally defined, probably ended in April. For the coincident index, which is a weighted average of five crucial indicators of economic activity and industrial sentiment, is what defines the beginning and end of each economic cycle. Last Wednesday, the CSO revealed a sharp rise in the index in May and June. This was the first two-month increase in the coincident indicators since the peak of May, 1990. It was also by far the steepest rise since early 1987. Admittedly the index, since April, has been based on incomplete figures. Its final values will not be available for another two weeks, when the first estimates of second-quarter gross domestic product are produced. If GDP falls again in the second quarter, the coincident index may well be revised downwards, though it would take an improbably big GDP drop to wipe out the gains in the index since March. It is a telling reflection of the present despondency in Britain that no newspaper apart from this one even reported the rise in the coincident index last week.

Of course, cyclical indices are too technical to make any impression on political and business opinion, but more tangible evidence on economic activity also suggests the gloom is overdone. Last month's jobs figures, which showed an increase of only 7,000 in seasonally adjusted unemployment, may have been erratically good, but the long-term pattern is clear — job losses are steadily declining and the increase in unemployment has peaked much earlier in the present economic cycle than in the last one. The figures on manufacturing output, industrial production and retail sales are also perfectly consistent with the end of recession, even if they are only "bumping along the bottom". As the second row of charts shows, it took two years after the end of the last recession before manufacturing output started to show perceptible growth, and it was a year before retail sales really picked up.

The main danger now for the economy is not that recession will go on for ever. It is that history will be repeated and, as in the early 1980s, recession will be followed by a miserable convalescence instead of a proper recovery. As a result, tens of thousands more jobs and businesses will be needlessly lost. What businessmen should now be demanding from ministers is not simply an end to recession, but a robust recovery with target growth rates of at least 3 to 3½ per cent annually, as promised in Norman Lamont's Budget.

In today's universal gloom, even such moderate growth rates may seem completely fantastic. Yet they should be easily attainable in Britain, given the huge improvements in the

supply side of the economy that have occurred in the past decade.

The surest way to achieve faster growth, as even the former devotees of Treasury orthodoxy are finally admitting, would be to cut interest rates to 7 per cent or less and pull sterling out of the ERM. But this is politically out of the question — unless the French referendum rejects Maastricht, in which case the entire ERM will probably collapse.

The task therefore must be to stimulate a strong recovery in Britain, accepting as given the ERM constraint. This should be quite possible. The main requirements are economic competence, political will and a bit of imagination. At present, all these are sadly missing in the Treasury and Downing Street. Fortunately, the CBI, the building societies and even the clearing banks have shown signs of greater determination in their lobbying during the past few weeks. Now the election is over, businessmen could exert enough pressure on the prime minister and the Conservative Party to make the Treasury sit up and take notice, if only they could agree on a common approach.

What, then, should the business community be demanding? Before

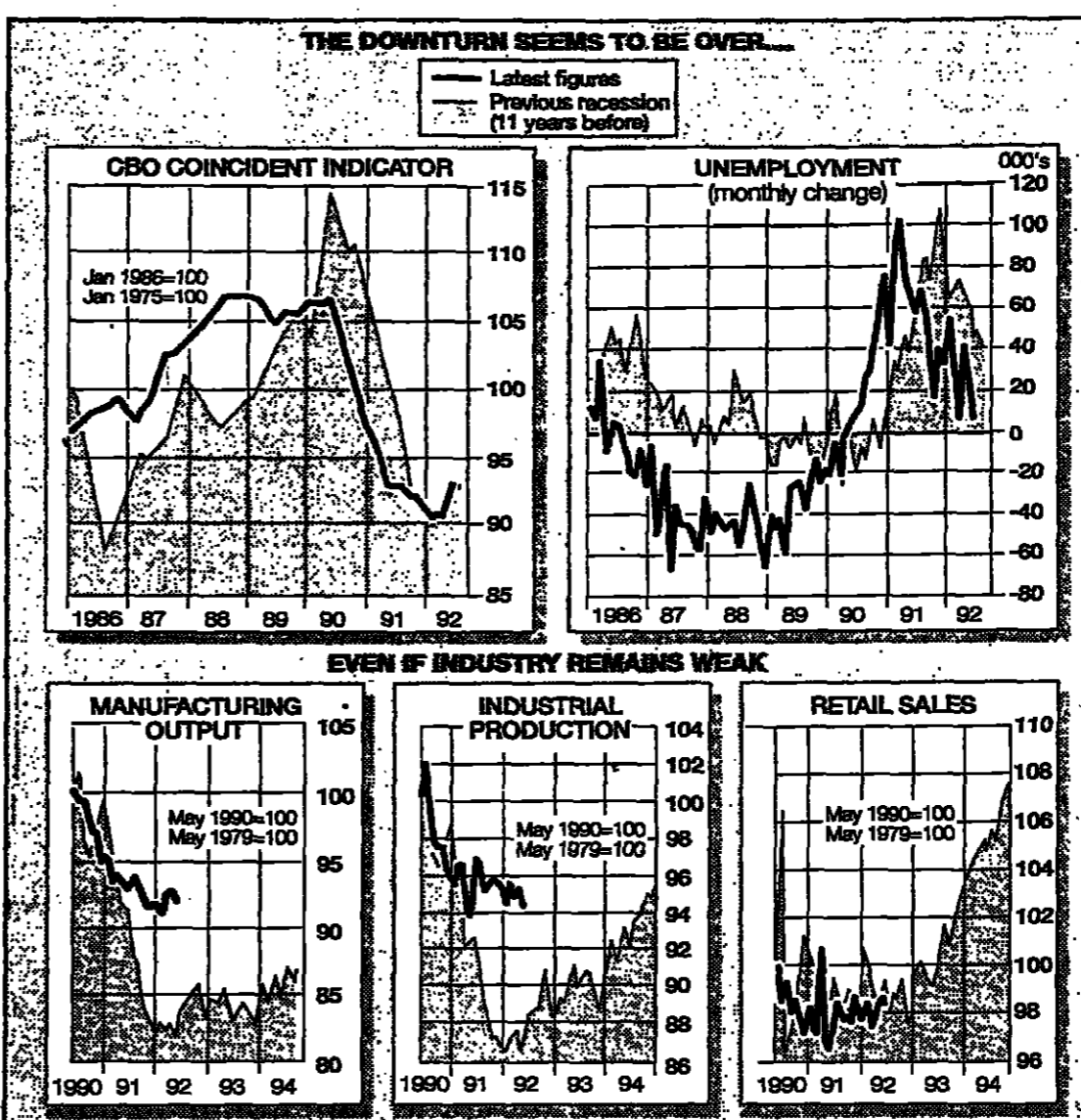
the last Budget, I suggested three measures which, between them, would have transformed the recession into a powerful recovery almost overnight. These were the abolition of the 10 per cent car tax, the temporary reintroduction of 100 per cent investment allowances and a package of policies to help the housing market, built around a temporary increase in mortgage tax relief that would ease in long-term abolition of the present system. The car and investment measures were seriously promoted by some people in the government, and even the idea of helping homeowners was seriously considered. But complacent as ever, the Treasury transformed all such sensible proposals into the single pathetic gesture of halving car tax.

The car industry should now lobby strongly for the total elimination of car tax (and vehicle excise duty) with revenues to be replaced through higher petrol taxes. The CBI should also be renewing its demands for higher tax allowances. But in reality, private investment is never going to be the prime mover behind a strong recovery. Before businesses invest they need to see stronger demand, and even with tax incentives high real interest rates will place a crushing burden on investment. Since ERM membership also rules out any strong growth in exports, extra demand can come only from two sources, consumption and public spending.

Much as businessmen would like a recovery led by investment or exports, they must face this fact: as long as Britain remains in the ERM, higher consumption and government spending will have to be the catalyst for growth. The implications may seem even more unpalatable to business orthodoxy. To stimulate consumption, the government must either encourage faster wage growth or it must stimulate personal borrowing and discourage saving.

In budgetary policies, the Treasury should also favour public spending over tax cuts, since a large part of these will be saved rather than spent. If only they could overcome their instinctive aversion to these principles, the business and financial communities could throw so much weight behind a package of powerful economic measures that government with a 20-seat majority would find it hard to resist.

In my opinion, such a package should have four main components: tax and regulatory changes to boost the housing market, as well as to restore fiscal neutrality and revive private rented accommodation; an acceleration of public-sector investment plans in railways, road repairs and social housing; the temporary suspension of all tax distortions, such as *Texas* and personal equity plans, that favour personal saving over consumption; financial reforms that would segment the financial markets, helping to insulate consumers and small businesses from the high real interest rates imposed by the ERM. For details, watch this space.



## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

## A Case of going contemporary

FEW are given £355,000 to indulge in art but John Case, director of development at Pearl Assurance, has just spent £350,000 buying 128 contemporary works of art for Pearl's new £100 million office in Peterborough after Pearl raised £580,000 selling works from its old Holborn headquarters. Petronilla Silver, director of CASP, the arm of the Contemporary Art Society that advises corporate buyers, acted as consultant. She says Pearl's collection is now "a microcosm of contemporary art. It takes Pearl right away from the boardroom full of portraits of directors." Although Case admits he has "no special knowledge of art", Silver thinks he was a good choice to handle the acquisitions. "There are very few people who have the specialist knowledge and who are in the position to buy contemporary painting," she says. "He had a real feel. You really want people like him who have the courage of their points of view and an open mind." Among Case's selection were established artists Maggi Hambling, Keith Milow and John Keane but he "really went gaga" over young artist Lucy Jones, Silver says. He bought two paintings by most artists but all four of her "vigorous and brightly coloured" views of London.

## Just growed

FUND managers specialising in income funds have had a tough time, with British Petro-

leum and others cutting dividends, but one index that can sometimes help them face the music is the Kleinwort Benson TOPSI-100. The index measures the top-yielding shares and is the brainchild of Michael Daniels and Hilton Seely of Kleinwort. They set it up last September and have just scored something of a coup by getting Datastream to make it the only broker's index on general access. Since September, the TOPSI-100 index has won fans among income fund managers and has been quoted in their annual reports to show how well they have done in their own sector — which is useful if, as now, the sector is underperforming the FT all-share index. "Before TOPSI, high income funds had no yardstick against which their performance could be measured," says Daniels. "It enables a fund to compare its performance with the high-yielding sector in general and we're delighted that it's now more generally available."

## Flipper kid

THE latest phase of dolphin mania, where dolphins will be used as "midwives" to expectant mothers, has found a surprising supporter in the world of City head-hunting — an area more readily associated with sharks than flipper. Jonathan Evans, managing director of Josephine Sammons, a rising name in equity markets, is one of 12 husbands flying to Israel in September where his wife will give birth to his child. The experiment, reported in *The Times* last week, aims to



establish whether the dolphins' presence can ease foetal distress in childbirth and whether they can make ultrasonic contact with the unborn child. Far from being sceptical, Evans thinks it "entirely possible" the dolphins will make contact and their recognition of the children after they are born. "We'll be able to tell by the way they swim alongside the babies," he says. "You can tell if a dolphin recognises you by the way it nudges you." A keen scuba diver, however, Evans has other reasons for being interested. "I'll have two weeks diving in the Red Sea, so I'm happy to go along with it," he says.

## Stride ahead

HUGH Logue, the former Stormont politician turned Eurocrat, has just returned to Brussels after a visit to his old stamping ground to present the first of six Stride awards to Ulster winners. He dreamed up the programme, Stride, which stands for Science and Technology for Regional Innovation and Development in Europe, as a member of the European Commission's Science and Technology Direc-

torate. The title was not conjured up out of an office in the Berlaymont but, Logue reveals, by his children, after he rejected as not quite suitable their first suggestion of Striper — Science, Technology, Research and Innovation Programme for the Peripheral European Regions. "I did not think the Northern Ireland Secretary or any other public figure would necessarily welcome being invited to present Striper awards," Logue explains.

## Round ribbon

WHO says businesses cannot start up in a recession? Julie Wright, 33, has just been given £250,000 by 3i, the venture capital giant, to expand her primer ribbon recycling business after hitting on a product that combines the two "fin" virtues of green-ness and cost-savings. Wright set up Inkwell in a garden shed in Chew Stoke, near Bristol just two years ago after her father, a design engineer, conceived the idea while recovering from heart surgery. It was an instant success, with companies such as B&Q alone recycling about 7,000 ill ribbons from its 270 stores. Wright has now patented the machine in 14 countries, won her first green award, and even had her first case of industrial espionage when the machine was stolen from her shed. "Luckily, we had just patented it in time so nobody else could exploit it. Now it's kept under lock and key. Nobody except staff is allowed to see it."

DEBRA ISAAC

## BUSINESS LETTERS

## Why DMI transfers housing risk

From F. Groen  
Sir, Jonathan Prynn's article in *Business Times* (August 6) on the insurance industry and the domestic mortgage indemnity insurance begs the question: is this really a subject for insurance?

The DMI is in fact a put option given by the insurance companies to the building societies, thereby transferring the risk of the housing market. It looks as if insurance company shareholders now carry the can instead of building society depositors for the less than cautious lending policies of the societies.

I do not know whether an equivalent to the DMI exists in other countries but I doubt it. Put options are always dangerous and giving such an option without hedging possibilities is suicidal — a bit like being a Lloyd's name.

Yours faithfully,  
F. GROEN,  
60 Dorling Drive,  
Epsom, Surrey.

From Mr David Blake  
Sir, I refer to the article by Jonathan Prynn (August 6). The reference to Sun Alliance withdrawing mortgage indemnity cover from the Wool-

## Lloyd's special levy is lawful and proper

From the Solicitor to the Corporation of Lloyd's  
Sir, As solicitor to the Corporation of Lloyd's, I read with surprise Mr Sokol's comments (*Business Letters*, August 7) about the recent Central Fund levy. I entirely reject his contentions.

Naturally, before taking its decision, the Council of Lloyd's considered in great detail the commercial, technical and legal arguments. It concluded that it was right to impose the levy, which has

## National Westminster Bank Interest Rates

National Westminster Bank announces the following interest rates, effective from 10 August 1992:

Savings			
Net interest per annum		Gross interest per annum*	Gross C.A.R.†
N/A	Tessa Reserve Tax Free Savings No Minimum Balance	9.75%	10.11%
6.94%	Crown Reserve 3 Months notice	9.25%	9.58%
6.75%	£25,000 and above	9.00%	9.31%
6.47%	£10,000 - £24,999	8.625%	8.91%
6.28%	£2,000 - £9,999	8.00%	8.24%
6.00%	Premium Reserve Instant Access	8.625%	8.91%
4.50%	£25,000 and above	8.375%	8.64%
4.31%	£10,000 - £24,999	8.00%	8.24%
4.13%	£2,000 - £9,999	7.50%	7.86%
3.94%	£500 - £1,999	5.25%	5.53%
4.69%	First Reserve Instant Access	6.25%	6.40%
4.31%	£1,000 and above	5.75%	5.88%
3.94%	£500 - £999	5.25%	5.35%
3.56%	£100 - £249	4.75%	4.84%
3.19%	£50 - £99	4.25%	4.32%
2.25%	World Savers (for Children)‡	3.00%	3.02%
0.75%	7 Day Notice Deposit Account‡	1.00%	1.00%

\* Where appropriate, Basic Rate Tax will be deducted from interest credited or paid (which may be reclaimed by resident non-taxpayers). † Subject to the required registration form, interest will be paid gross.

‡ Gross Compounded Annual Rate (C.A.R.) is the true annual return on your savings if the interest payments are retained in the account. † Existing Account Holders only.

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85		5.3	
20	-3	0.0	0.3
224	-21	20.3	12.2
204	-12	20.3	11.4
90	-4	4.0	5.0
23			
140	-5	7.0	6.7
135		1.5	1.5
203	-21	21.7	8.2
68		3.6	7.5

2	...	...	...	...
1	...	...	...	...
22	-9	20.0	11.7	7.7
3	...	...	...	...
104	+4	6.4	8.2	8.7
8	-1	0.5	1.1	...
15	-5	10.5	...	1.2
5	...	...	...	...
37	-2	0.1	0.4	...
3	...	...	...	...
805	-20	18.0	1.0	8.3
2	...	0.0	...	...
112	...	5.6	8.7	16.6
45	...	...	...	...
4	-1	4.2	...	1.3
26	+2	...	0.2	3.2

77	- 5	3.7	0.7	-
32	- 1	...	...	6.3
5	- 1	1.5	...	1.0
4	- 1	...	...	...
105	...	1.3	1.1	35.6
16	- 1	0.5	4.6	9.6
25	...	...	...	...
29	- 6	...	20.2	18.5
45	- 1	...	...	...

4	+2	...	...	...
13	...	2.0	...	...
107	-9	11.5	14.4	6.6
42	-1	4.1	13.3	...
9	-1	...	...	...
14	...	...	...	...
63	...	...	6.9	18.5
38	-2	2.5	9.0	10.0
10	-3	...	...	...
5	...	...	...	...
133	-2	10.0	10.0	12.9
210	...	7.2	4.7	14.3
1	...	1.0	...	0.2
38	-7	3.7	17.8	9.8
22	...	...	...	...

ES, LEATHER				
23	..	0.5	..	..
09	+ 1	24	4.6	16.5
403	- 2	125	4.1	9.3
07	- 1	15	2.3	12.8
37	- 3	0	8.9	4.4

	1992	-15	18	26	04
192	-15	25	26		

TEXTILES					
392	-2	12.3	4.2	13.8	
63	..	4.7	10.1	11.3	
294	..	..	..	28.5	
153	..	8.5	7.4	11.5	
101	-0	2.4	3.2	..	
53	-1	1.2	2.0	..	
31	..	6.4	1.7	..	
214	-4	..	2.4	14.7	
405	-15	13.0	4.3	11.1	

179	- 9	9.0	6.7	16.0
40	...	1.5	5.1	13.7
4	...	...	...	...
61	...	4.9	10.7	6.1
53	...	0.5	1.3	...
119	-11	8.5	9.5	...
130	- 2	3.4	3.5	12.2
95	+ 1	1.0	2.4	...
313	+ 1	...	3.1	15.3
430	+ 1	9.7	1.0	16.2

24	...	0.1	0.6	
91	+ 1	4.4	6.5	9.4
62	...	2.0	3.6	...
72	+ 25	0.3	0.3	0.6
44	+ 4	...	...	...
71	...	5.1	9.7	11.7
34	...	1.6	6.7	11.1
46	...	2.8	7.3	12.8
285	...	1.5	5.4	23.0
4	+ 5	0.5	0.9	...
240	...	9.7	5.4	11.3

737	- 6	33.6	6.2	22.2
1039	-19	30.3	2.6	12.1

<b>TRANSPORT</b>				
272	- 8	8.0	3.9	22.8
618	...	14.5	3.1	13.3

254	...	10.1	3.3	85
66	-6	8.0	16.2	51
325	-7	...	...	...
1%	-4	...	...	...
65	...	3.5	11.3	139
79	-1	4.5	7.6	...
177	-1	4.9	30	17.7
26	-1	1.8	9.9	15.2
5%	...	...	...	...
1377	-9%	6.5	0.4	5.4
300	-1	6.0	4.0	11.8
242.7	+3	8.2	3.4	14.2
218	+1	14.3	9.8	8.5
46	-3	...	2.3	30.3
340	-2	30.5	32.0	11.1
112	...	...	...	...

134	= 0	22.6	9.0	15.1
104	...	4.2	5.4	8.7
395	= 14	...	0.1	7.4
57	= 1	...	5.1	7.5
580	= 5	10.8	2.4	23.0
276	= 11	...	8.4	5.4
232	= 16	9.5	5.5	13.7
128	...	...	...	...

WATER				
400	+17	19.3	6.4	7.5
478	+8	...	3.7	5.6
409	+7	18.6	6.4	7.1
382	+5	19.3	6.7	6.4
396	-5	...	...	...
389	-1	21.7	7.5	5.9
404	-2	19.2	6.3	7.8
427	-3	21.4	6.7	4.9
480	-2	19.5	5.4	7.0
438	+10	19.5	6.1	7.2

suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex  
issue; § Ex alt; ¶ Ex capital  
tes or report awaited: ... No

1.90 do-A	568	...	2.3	0.5	38.1	4.81 Personal Assist	39	...	1.8	1.1
0.50 Securityguard	191	...	1	8.5	7.5	192.40 Mkt Cap Pntr	99	-	1.1	1.1
3.40 Security Svc	461	...	4.4	1.4	28.4	21.20 Mkt & Merc	106	-	1.1	1.1
0.00 Select App-A	5	...				Barbers	276	...		
0.07 Serm Eng	68	...	3	3.1	6.2	10.20	273	...		
1.10 Serm Gp	594	...	8	11.9	27	73.20 St Andrew Inc	213	...	7.5	4.0

26.25 APT	173	-2	3.5	30.3
1.14150 Ago Wiggins	215	+1	3.3	3.1
55.70 Abbott Mead	370	-1	6.4	3.0 17.5

source: Finstat

4 USID: 4 Price at Suspension: 4 Ex dividend: 4 Ex  
 scrip: 4 Ex rights issue: 4 Ex all: 4 Ex capital  
 distribution: 4 Figures of report omitted: No  
 significant data.



David Miller, chief sports correspondent, reflects on Games that were as happy as they were successful

# Olympians show mankind's better side to world

The problem at the Olympic Village has been that nobody wants to leave. It used to be the Commonwealth Games that carried the accolade of the Friendly Games. That title must be awarded unreservedly to the festival just concluded in Barcelona.

From King Juan Carlos to the humblest competitor, from Spain's unprecedented 13 gold medal-winners and the legendary Carl Lewis to the anonymous army of Catalan volunteers, these have been the happiest as well as the most successful Games ever staged.

This is something I doubted would be possible to say after Seoul four years ago. The people of Barcelona, as well as the myriad of athletes, have surpassed themselves in what has been achieved. But this has been the ultimate demonstration of peacefulness.

It would be facile to suggest, at a time in history tormented by political and financial strife, by famine and wars, that the world was a better place on account of 16 days of sport. Yet the sporting world, gathered in unique harmony, has presented a face of tranquillity amid intense competition that must surely carry some legacy

of hope for mankind. Never have so many heads of state and political leaders given such acknowledgment to this gathering of peoples.

The Games began against a background of criticism and cynicism, directed against overt commercialism, professionalism, drugs and the exploitation of power, against competitors and administrators corrupted by any or all of these vices. What has been witnessed, by hundreds of thousands present here and by billions on television, has been a cavalcade of exploits that demonstrated so many of mankind's more agreeable characteristics, whether in success or failure.

The Games have been, unequivocally, a huge success. The inter-relationship between the sports, the competitors and the host city has been more intimate, spontaneous and uninhibited than any before, and will prove to have been a landmark in the social development of both. The administration, involving 120,000 accredited personnel, has held firm, while Barcelona has passed through a watershed in its international perception, from within and without. The

Games have shown the world, in the words of Juan Antonio Samaranch, that Spain is simultaneously an old and a young country. The Catalans have discovered they can be a part of Spain, while the rest of the country has learnt it can be happy, when represented by Catalonia. Nothing has been more symbolic than the daily involvement and enthusiasm at events of the King, a monarch that has found a British echo in the presence of John Major. Sport has emerged with a relevance to life somewhat beyond, in the phrase of Robert Scott, "the unwashed on a Saturday afternoon".

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to be swept along among hundreds of thousands of inhabitants who had no tickets but were out on the streets and the plazas to savour the fun, the feel of the circus and the drama of things unseen, has been exhilarating and at times overwhelming. On the hill behind the city, Gaudí's illuminated Parc Güell has cast a magical spell over the night city. For a fortnight, Barcelona has hardly slept.

There have been a hundred, a thousand unforgettable moments, many acclaimed, many more that slipped by unrecorded; intense, private experiences. None can forget the ecstasy on the face of Panoulidou, of Greece, when she won her country's first athletics gold medal for 80 years, nor the grace of Devers, of America, having fallen when leading the race only yards from the line. The admiration of Akabusi, having set a British record in the 400 metres hurdles in third place, standing in awe on the track to watch the return of Young, of America, the new world record-holder, was a lesson in humility.

There have been the usual contrasts, none more stark than that between the world's most populous country, China, with more than 50 medals, and India, the second most populous, with none for the second Games running. It is the contrast between a totalitarian regime that has succeeded the Soviet Union and East Germany in projection-through-sport, and a struggling democracy fraught with more pressing social priorities. Equally evident has been the decline of former Eastern European sports powerhouses, notably Bulgaria with a single gold medal, Poland and Czechoslovakia with three each. Bulgaria won the Olympic cap by locking up their 1992 member for minor irregularities.

The decline of these communist reflects a sharp downturn in expenditure on sport that will continue with economic hardship, and by 1996 will also be becoming apparent in the former Soviet republics. Their collective 90-odd medals this time will prove to have been, for a while, their last hurrah. Hungary have held on, with 20 medals in fifth place on the gold count, because theirs is the most progressive economy of the



Juan Carlos: symbolic

former involuntary Communist states.

As Eastern Europe declines, and with it the ideological challenge to the United States, there will be an upsurge in Eastern Asia. South Korea lies sixth and Japan, on total medals, eighth.

We have seen the emergence of African women runners, headed by Derartu Tulu, of Ethiopia, a runaway winner ahead of Elena Meyer, of South Africa, in the women's 10,000 metres, and by Hassiba Boulmerka, of Algeria, in the 1,500 metres. By the

year 2000, China's women may well have overtaken America on all-round medals.

So accustomed to dominance is the United States that there have been dismayed faces and grim reports on their various "failures". Despite massive funding, I believe the trend will continue as the rest of the world improves, and the Games will be better for that.

Drug scandals, fortunately, have been few, though doubtless more have been caught. Blood-testing is likely to be introduced by the time of the Winter Games at Lillehammer in 1994, and that should prove a far more effective deterrent. If China wishes to be free of suspicion, it will have to produce evidence of domestic random testing to match its sudden upturn in medals.

It was hugely beneficial to the fight against drugs in Germany that on the final day of track events there should be conspicuous victories by Dieter Baumann and Heike Henkel in the men's 5,000 metres and women's high jump, respectively. They have a reputation of antipathy to artificial assistance, and can help mend

some of the damage done by Kribbe and others.

There has been evidence of a fall in standard in men's middle distances, or rather fewer peaks, because of continuous running round the calendar for money. World and Olympic records will be fewer.

I have had few dreams, awake or asleep, about the US basketball team. This game, together with women's gymnastics, is populated by physical freaks, and seems to me devoid of drama, unless you call winning by 117 to 116 exciting, which was a prospect never confronted by the Dream Team. What Magic Johnson gave to the Games was the ethic of his desire to be there.

My lasting memories, among others, will be of the beauty of the rowing and canoeing courses at Banyoles and Le Seu d'Urgell, with their staging of two of the purest Olympic sports; the intensity of competition at the tennis in impossible temperatures; the unparalleled success of the Spanish in the yachting events, and elsewhere; and the enduring genius of Carl Lewis, the outstanding athlete of 1990 years.

## A new spirit is born from the ashes of once-great machine

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

AT NO time in the past two weeks did the dissolution of the once-mighty Soviet sports establishment seem as poignant as on Saturday night, when Olga Bryzgina passed Rochelle Stevens, of the United States, on the last leg of the women's 4 x 400m relay to take the gold medal for the Unified Team. After the ecstatic hugs and kisses of the team-members, the award ceremony was cold and flat.

No tearful eyes were lifted to the national flag, no lips moved to the majestic strains of the national anthem, because the flag that was raised and the anthem that was played were the neutral Olympic flag and anthem. At Atlanta in four years' time, these same athletes could be competing for three different national teams.

Saturday night, however, was one of the few times when the absence of the red flag and the now ironic words of the Soviet anthem — opening line "Indivisible union of free republics" — was keenly felt. For the rest, there was a new spirit about the ex-Soviet team.

Whether it was born, as some of the sports officials wanted to believe, of a common determination to "go out in style", or of the athletes' anticipation that in future they would be running in the name of "their" nation-state and not an ideological monster, hardly mattered.

To judge by the television coverage, their athletes looked uncharacteristically relaxed and happy. They wore modest green. Some of the girls had curled their hair or risked a dash of make-up before they went to the starting line. They smiled and laughed together and with other competitors. Was this the first time that "Soviet" athletes had taken part at a summer Olympics without KGB commissars to push them into line?

A breath of fresh air blew through the Moscow television coverage, too. If you switched between the American (CNN), German (Eurosport) and Russian channels now available to the Moscow elite, the Russian commentary was most technical, most informative and least

chauvinistic. Perhaps the disintegration of Soviet sport meant that it had to be, but the Russian commentators were also charitable.

Lithuania's bronze medal for basketball, after victory over the Unified Team, could have been treated grudgingly by Moscow.

Half the team, after all, consisted of former Soviet internationals. But neither here, nor with Romas Ubartas's victory in the discus — Lithuania's first Olympic gold — did the commentary allow a hint of bitterness. "Here comes Ubartas for his final throw," the Russian commentator, said. "Four years ago he was competing for the Soviet Union. Let's wish our former team-mate all the best."

Bosnian competitors who braved sniper fire to get to the Olympic Games were preparing to return to the war zone yesterday. "Coming here was like coming to paradise. Now we are going back to Hell," the athletics coach, Zelemir Mladenovic, said. (AFP)

## American relay men give British a lesson in the value of long-term practice

# Dream teams out on their own



CARL Lewis called America's sprinters the dream team and, though he was referring to the 4 x 100 metres quartet, he might just as easily have been talking about the United States 4 x 400 metres squad (David Powell writes). Both set world records on Saturday without anyone getting near them.

It can be argued that Lewis's achievements here were as meritorious as his accomplishments in his previous two Olympics. Winner of four golds in Los Angeles and two in Seoul, he came to the Montjuïc stadium with bullet holes in his uniform but leaves with them patched over.

This had been an ignominious season for Lewis, "who looked a forlorn figure in the US trials last month, failing to qualify for the 100 metres and finishing second to Mike Powell in the long jump. He had not been well, he told us, and that must now be recorded as reason, not excuse, for his poor performances."

He defeated Powell to win the long jump on Thursday, then, on Saturday, secured his eighth Olympic gold medal by anchoring the 4 x 100 metres team to 37.40sec, an improvement of 0.10sec on the previous record. "I felt incredible," Lewis said. "I feel I am back to where I belong, in great shape. I look forward to sprinting in Stuttgart [the world championships] next year." He did not discount the possibility of returning for a fourth Olympics in 1996, when he will be aged 35.

Mike Marsh, who led off the team, made an observation which shames the British effort. "As a unit we have worked together the last three years," Marsh said. Contrast this with the words of Frank Dick, Britain's director of coaching, who said: "As a unit they [the British four who ran in the final] have not ever practised together." Goodness knows, though, Dick has tried to assemble them.

Britain's third changeover, from John Regis to Christie, was ragged. "Because it was a late box change, Linford turned his head and, in doing



Relay medal-winners: Britain's Sally Gunnell, Sandra Douglas, Jennifer Stoute and Phyllis Smith

so, his hand moved," Dick said. It took Regis two goes to get the baton in.

Britain lost the European Cup last year because of a poor relay changeover. Such errors are more likely from a team that does not practise. When Dick organised a squad training session in Zurich, only Christie of the four who ran in the final was present. "We have seen enough of this now to understand that you have to put together a squad and the squad has to work together regularly over a long period," Dick said.

Quincy Watts ran the fastest lap of a track ever seen, taking 43.1sec for the second leg of the 4 x 400 metres relay. British hopes of adding the Olympic title to the world title were ended on the first leg when

Andrew Valmon ran faster than Roger Black. David Grindley needed Black to be ahead to have even the slightest chance of staying within striking distance of Watts on leg two.

Kris Akabusi began the third leg 30 metres down and worse was to follow as Roberto Hernandez held off Regis to secure second place for Cuba. But they were four seconds behind the winners, whose world record now stands at 2min 55.74sec.

Sally Gunnell added a 4 x 400 metres bronze to her 400 metres hurdles gold. She ran a 50.4sec last leg, running scared from a shadow. "You get a shadow when you are running with your baton and I thought it was someone right behind me," Gunnell said.

## Africans let Baumann use his finishing speed

DIETER Baumann is an unusual athlete (David Powell writes). For a start he is trained by his girlfriend. Unusually, too, he is a white medal-winner from the individual men's track programme at the 25th Olympic Games. By only half an hour, Fermin Cacho beat him to becoming the first, in the 1,500 metres.

The Africans played into Baumann's hands in the 5,000 metres on Saturday. He is renowned as a fast finisher and at no stage did the pace threaten to become quick.

Coming off the final bend, Baumann was fourth but

when a gap opened between Paul Bitok, of Kenya, and Fita Bayisa, of Ethiopia, he sprinted through to take the title in 13min 12.52sec.

Baumann's girlfriend, Isabell Hoang, is an acknowledged expert in the mechanics of training at altitude. He prepared for the Games with long spells in Arizona and St Moritz.

The second European across the line was Rob Denmark, of Britain, maintaining his yearly improvement. He was ninth in the world championships last year and seventh here.

## Spain celebrates as Narvaez nets title



Barcelona: Of all the medals the host nation has won in its most successful Olympic Games, could any have been sweeter than the football gold they achieved on Saturday night?

Probably not. When Francisco Quico Narvaez chipped a loose ball over Poland's goalkeeper, Aleksander Klak, in the final minute to give Spain a 3-2 victory and its first gold medal in football, the crowd of 95,000, which included King Juan Carlos, Queen Sofia and Juan Antonio Samaranch, was sent into a flag-waving, song-singing, drum-banging frenzy.

"The key was emotion," the Spanish coach, Vicente Miera, said. "It was a great show tonight. Internationally speaking, this is the greatest feat as far as a Spanish team is

concerned. I'm more than happy with the outcome."

David Villabona set up the goal by blasting a shot from the edge of the penalty area. The rebound went to the right and Narvaez, who plays for Cádiz, responded coolly.

It was high emotion for Narvaez. "It was unforgettable," he said. "It was a moment of tranquillity. When you score right at the death you know you have won. All the emotions that had been held in were released."

Miera said he was not worried about going a goal down after Poland scored at the end of the first half. "I knew the goal would come," he said. More than one, in fact, as Spain went ahead 2-1 and then Poland equalised.

The crowd was the largest and most passionate of the Olympic Games and the biggest to watch Spain play in Barcelona.

## Campaign that just blew it

FROM JOHN GOODBODY IN BARCELONA

NIKE, the American sports-wear company, built a huge advertising campaign around four of its sponsored athletes at the Olympic Games. Posters appeared around the world telling the public how successful Nike's competitors would be. The trouble is that only one of the four won.

Michael Johnson, the fastest of favourites for the 200 metres, was displayed on placards congratulating the reader for doing what few athletes would do at the Games: passing Johnson. Unfortunately, the American was suffering from a viral complaint and four people passed him as he failed to make the final.

Still, there was always Sergey Bubka, from Ukraine. As Olympic and world champion and world

record-holder, he was expected to soar to victory in the pole vault. The poster proclaimed: "Spanish air traffic control has been notified". Bubka failed with two vaults at 5.70 metres, tried 5.75 and missed that. He was out without making a clearance.



Johnson: early exit

Well, at least Noureddine Morceli, the world champion from Algeria, would save Nike's face by winning the 1,500 metres. The advertising slogan read: "Ever heard the Algerian national anthem? You will." Well, we did — but not for Morceli. Unfortunately for Nike, it was for Hassiba Boulmerka, in the women's 1,500 metres.

She stood on the podium in tears, listening to the Algerian national anthem, her kit emblazoned with the name of Diadora, an Italian sportswear manufacturer. Morceli, meanwhile, finished seventh. Nobody from Nike was available to comment on the embarrassment.

Fortunately, Michael Jordan, the fourth competitor, had the rest of the Dream Team alongside him, and the United States squad easily took the basketball.



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John Major 1992



# Clinical Cantona makes most of Liverpool's charity

**BY STUART JONES**  
**FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT**

He insisted he will persist with the 3-5-2 formation he has used in each pre-season game – apparently, it suits his players – but unless he changes the personnel. Liverpool promise to be more vulnerable at the back than they have been for several decades. Walters and Saunders may enhance and broaden a powerful attack, but neither can adequately fill the role of a "wing back" and

The first player since Tommy Taylor in 1957 to claim three goals in the Charity Shield, Cantona completed his haul courtesy of a typically aberrant Grobbelaar waving at Wallace's cross. Nevertheless, Souness stated that his goalkeeper, who has been picked by Zimbabwe for a World Cup qualifying tie next weekend, will not be released.

LEEDS UNITED: J Lulic, J Newsome (sub: G Strachan), A Donigo, D Batty, C Fairclough, C Whyte, E Cantona, R Wallace, L Chapman (sub: S Hodge), G McAllister, G Speed.

LIVERPOOL: B Grobbelaar, N Tanner, D Burrows, M Marsh, (sub: D Hutchinson), R Whelan, M Wright, D Saunders, P Stewart, I Rush, R Rosenthal (sub: I Kozme), M Walters.

Referee: D Elleray.

**On the line: Batty, of Leeds, holds off Walters at Wembley on Saturday**

## Chelsea in move to sign Spackman

Moves are also being made among Premier League club chairmen to arrange a meeting this week to finalise a

However, that decision has since inspired an angry reaction among other clubs and a powerful lobby is to call a meeting this week to finally put the Bass deal to the vote.

The Newcastle United central defender, Kevin Scott, stripped of the captaincy during the summer, has agreed a new three-year contract.

The first division newcomers, Birmingham City, will be without the midfield player, Ian Rodgerson, for the first two months of the season. Rodgerson has had an operation to try to cure a groin problem.

## Lisbon recover in fine style

**BY OUR SPORTS STAFF**

After Krasimir Balakov has begun the recovery in the 62nd minute, Felipe Ramos levelled the scores with goals on 67 and 71 minutes. Both were the fault of the Newcastle captain, Brian Kilcline, whose errors twice left Ramos with an open goal.

Newcastle's misery was complete when Ramos turned goalsmaker to send in Jorge Cadette for the fourth goal in the 78th minute. With the 90 minutes completed, Balakov



**Robson: watching**

Paul Wilkinson, after 61 minutes, Willie Falconer, after 63 minutes, and Robbie Mustoe, after 66 minutes, turned the tables in spectacular style before Ian Ironsides, the reserve home goalkeeper, then unfortunately presented Luis Perez with a simple equaliser.

## RUGBY UNION

### South Africa's lack of experience exposed

The New Zealanders delayed the announcements of their team until today when they play a selection of central and rural unions (in effect second and third division) at Withank.

**tralia, arrived yesterday in Pretoria. They start their tour with a game against Western Transvaal Potchefstroom.**

**SOUTH AFRICA:** T Van Rensburg; J Smell, D Garber, P Müller, P Hendriks; N Botha (captain), R Du Preez; H Rodgers, U Schrick, L Mulder, W Barnman; A Malen, A

## WEEKEND RESULTS AND TABLES

[illegible]

## **CYCLING**

### **LeMond looking for injection of form**

**BY PETER BRYAN**

Stephen Roche, still to represent the home force of 1987 when he captured victories in the Tour de France and the Giro d'Italia with the world road race title, was to have led a strong Carrera squad but will be a non-starter after crashing in San Sebastian on Saturday. He had six stitches

□ Olympic riders took the first two places in the High Wycombe 102-mile road race near Stokenchurch. Steve Farrell finish ten seconds ahead of the French-based rider, Matthew Stephens.

## YACHTING

## Youth rises to challenge of conditions

BY BARRY PICKTHALL

# Change of

BY ALIX RAMSAY

**wind blows**

## favourites

Clyde in two weeks.

# off course

four miles before the house

Despite three wins in seven

day and for having to start on Saturday ruined their challenge and allowed Rubin XII, owned by Hans Otto Schumann, to sneak in and win the class with two late victories on Thursday and Saturday.

It was the same story for Stephen Fein in the Eichelhs. He had steered Full Pelt to three victories in the early part

Some of the early leaders could not be beaten. Stephen Bailey had done enough with Arbitrator in the opening stages to win the Sigma 38 class. It was the same for James Gresham and Nicholas Inghelbald in the Contessa 32s.

The only question left to be answered is whether Land Rover will be back next year to support the event. After committing four years of work and £600,000 to Cowes Week, the firm has until the end of the month to decide whether it

# Progressive Green's Cassatt weighted to land swift treble

IF PATIENCE is a virtue, Mark Brismourne has his fair share. After saddling his first runner at Thirkst last August, Brismourne made his first appearance in the winner's enclosure, again at Thirkst, with Green's Cassatt a year later.

However, Brismourne, who rode 60 winners as a National Hunt jockey, was not wasted much time since and Green's Cassatt attempts her third victory in 10 days in the Robert Morley Memorial Handicap at Windsor this afternoon. She is a top.

The filly, who came back into training after being tested in foal, did not get a clear run on her return to racing when sixth of 18 at Chester in July and ran too freely early on at Wolverhampton next time out.

She then finished four-and-a-quarter lengths fourth to Kiriemuir over an inadequate

trip at Leicester before winning over a mile at Thirkst. She followed up by beating Irish Groom by a comfortable looking two lengths at Nottingham three days later.

Explaining his quick-fire policy, Brismourne said: "She won't be in training for more than about another three weeks. I can't see her getting into many more races with 7st 9lb, including Steve Maloney's claim."

The dangers could be Congress and Grand Vitesse. Congress won over a mile as a juvenile and reverted to a shorter trip after two unsuccessful attempts over 10 furlongs. Although the drop in distance may help I feel she has more weight than her form merits.

Grand Vitesse was a winner at Goodwood in May and has

put up some worthy performances since, notably when at close shod to Eharisto at the Britannia Handicap at Royal Ascot. However, he has been finding little in the closing stages.

After two promising performances over the minimum distance, Palm Chat came good when tried over six

furlongs at Ayr two weeks ago. Taking up, she kept on well in the final furlong to beat Kurrig by half-a-length and looks capable of following up in the Robert and Norah Whitnort Nursery Handicap.

Awestrack caused a shock when beating her favourite Musical Prospect at Epsom last time out. However, it will be much less of a surprise if he can supplement that success by winning the Institute Of Insurance Brokers Nursery Handicap at Leicester this evening.

Victory could come at the expense of Time's Arrow, who looked to have his limitations exposed at Newmarket last time out.

Rock Opera, who has not been disgraced in his last two runs, can resume winning ways in the Sunderland AFC/Johnny Ridley Handicap at Thirkst.

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## Pips Pride gives Hannon victory

FROM OUR IRISH RACING CORRESPONDENT IN DUBLIN

RICHARD Hannon landed the group one £150,000 Heinz 57 Phoenix Stakes at Leopardstown yesterday with the 10-1 Pips Pride rather than the 2-1 favourite Son Pardo, who did not reach the first.

The explanation for the upset lay in the decision of the jockey to put the starting stalls in the middle of the track. Normally they are on the far side, giving the high numbers a clear advantage.

The English-based jockeys who walked the track before racing discovered that the fastest ground was under the stands' rails and accordingly the field split into two groups with those drawn one to six taking the race.

This left Son Pardo, Karamatera and Aradanza racing on the far side of the track. Son Pardo won this particular race but was beaten a total of almost 14 lengths.

Pips Pride had been strongly fancied for the Scottish Equitable Richmond Stakes at Goodwood but resented being held up.

Here Frankie Dettori allowed him to make full use of his speed and although Shaikh was going as well as a furlong out, Pips Pride stayed on the better to win by three-quarters of a length.

Hannon believes Pips Pride will stay seven furlongs and is booked for Doncaster's Champagne Stakes while Son Pardo will tackle the Gimcrack Stakes at York.

At Leopardstown on Saturday, Jim Bolger's Park Dream landed the group three Waterford Foods Phoenix Stakes, in which the 6-4 joint favourites Prince Ferdinand and Flowing never threatened.

Park Dream, who is still improving, has the Prix de l'Abbaye de Longchamp as her long-term objective.

Haydock Park

Goings: good to soft

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Gatting leads run charge

# Middlesex tighten their grip on title

By Richard Streeton

LORD'S (Essex won toss): Middlesex (4pts) beat Essex by 94 runs

THIS showdown between the only two teams who can win the Sunday League was won in convincing fashion yesterday by Middlesex. Their success virtually clinched them the title, the only competition they have never won. Set to make 237 in 39 overs, Essex were bowled out for just 142.

Middlesex received a standing ovation as they left the field after completing victory with 5.5 overs in hand. To be deprived of the £25,000 for first place, Middlesex must lose their three remaining fixtures and Essex must win theirs with a high run-rate.

Middlesex are at home to Yorkshire next Sunday and finish with away games against Sussex and Surrey. Middlesex, once again, owed much to their ability to score rapid runs. Gatting and Roseberry the dominant factors. These two added 151 in 25 overs for the second wicket after Haynes, with a Sunday average of 90.50, was caught behind in Topley's first over. Gatting provided marvellous entertainment for a crowd of 8,000 as he drove and pulled with his own, inimitable brand of power and timing. He and Roseberry ran like hares between the wickets.

Roseberry's strokeplay was less obviously violent. A minor curiosity was that he did not hit a four but he did on-drive Fraser for six and pulled Childs for another.

The tempo picked up when Topley finished and both the Essex spinners, Such and Childs, were punished, with Childs being removed from the attack after three overs cost 32. Stephenson did a good, containing job but Middle-

	P	W	L	T	N	R	Pts
Middlesex (11)	14	13	1	0	0	0	50
Essex (9)	14	8	6	0	0	0	40
Surrey (8)	14	8	6	0	0	0	40
Gloucestershire (8)	14	8	6	0	0	0	40
Hampshire (17)	14	8	6	0	0	0	40
Worcestershire (4)	14	7	5	1	1	3	30
Warwickshire (5)	15	7	6	1	1	3	30
Kent (10)	13	7	4	0	2	3	30
Gloucestershire (7)	14	6	7	1	0	3	20
Gloucestershire (13)	15	7	8	0	0	0	20
Yorkshire (7)	14	6	7	0	1	3	20
Sussex (12)	14	6	7	0	1	3	20
Derbyshire (15)	14	6	7	0	1	3	20
Lancashire (2)	14	6	7	0	0	3	20
Northamptonshire (3)	14	6	8	0	0	2	10
Gloucestershire (15)	14	3	10	0	0	1	10
Nottinghamshire (1)	13	3	10	0	0	1	10
Leicestershire (14)	14	2	12	0	0	0	0

**FROM JOHN HENNESSEY IN DUBLIN**

the bank and then missed from four feet. Horton still had a shot to spare but that

Whithead (Moor Park), 73, 77, 74, 74; B  
Hutchinson (Moortown), 71, 79, 75, 73; J  
Kitt (Aust.), 70, 75, 77, 78.

Thinning (Den), 70, 82, 70, 66, 289; A Lyle, 70, 67, 65, 67, 270; F Nobilo (NZ), 68, 68, 71, 63; S McAlester, 70, 68, 67, 67; R

McFadden, 67, 68, 67, 68; D Clarke, 68, 62, 71; C Rocco (n), 65, 68, 68, 70 (19394 sach). 271: D Gifford, 67, 68, 68, 68; J Spence, 68, 68, 65, 70 (27500 sach).

272: P Fowler (Aus), 67, 67, 70, 68; M Jimenez (Span), 68, 67, 67, 68; D Feherly, 67, 67, 69, 70; C Pavin (US), 71, 64, 68, 71. 273: M MacKenzie, 68, 71, 69, 67; D Miquit (Can), 67, 70, 68, 68.

274: A Mednick (Swe), 66, 70, 68, 70; G J Brand, 68, 68, 68, 71. 275: S Grappasonni (n): 67, 71, 68, 68; A Cejka (Ger), 68, 68, 68, 68; D J Russell, 68, 68, 67, 70.

## BOWLS: ALLCOCK AND OTTAWAY MAKE GOOD START AT WORTHING

Israel in their section, with Stephen Rees, John Price and Spencer Wilshire of Wales

fourth behind Canada, who beat Graham Robertson, Willie Wood and Angus Blair of Scotland. Peter Mutter, the Canadian skip, played a decisive part with his knack of



dictably rubbished by Newman as being "a small guy with no calibre", was himself not too sure about things. "Get past me and you'll win the world title," said the man

who had lost five of his 15 contests and then added, "Lewis is a good fighter and it's a great opportunity for me. It's my biggest pay day. But I will have to improve a lot to beat him." Let us hope Dixon's boxing makes more sense than his words.

pitching consultant, has been awarded a testimonial in 1993 by Surrey, where he is head groundsman. Brind, 62, joined Surrey from Essex in 1976.

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**NATIONAL LEAGUE:** Chicago Cubs 4, New York Mets 2; Atlanta Braves 12, Los Angeles Dodgers 2; Montreal Expos 6, Philadelphia Phillies 1; Pittsburgh Pirates 2, St. Louis Cardinals 1; Cincinnati Reds 4, San Francisco Giants 3 (16 Inn.); San Diego Padres-7, Houston Astros 5.

**AMERICAN LEAGUE:** Boston Red Sox 4, New York Yankees 2; Oakland Athletics 5,

1-1
2-1
3-3 ●
4-1
5-1½
6-1
7-2
8-1½
8-1½
10-1
11-1½
12-1
13-3 ●
14-2

16-1½
17-1
18-1
19-1
20-1½
21-1
22-3 ●
23-1
24-1½
25-1½
26-3 ●
27-1½
28-1
29-1½

31-3 ●  
32-3 ●  
33-1  
34-1  
35-1 1/4  
36-2  
37-1  
38-1  
39-1 1/4  
40-1  
41-1  
42-1  
43-1 1/4  
44-3 ●

46-1 1/2
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52-1 1/2
53-1 1/2
54-1 1/2
55-1
56-3 ●
57-1 1/2
58-1

**BOWLS:** World championships (Worthing).  
**CYCLING:** Kellogg's Tour of Britain (Dundee circuit).  
**SPEEDWAY:** Homefire League: First division: Reading v Ipswich (7.30); Wolverhampton v Arena Essex (7.30). Second division: Newcastle v Rye House (7.30).

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Spotlight falls on fast-bowling pair as Pakistan clinch Test series in convincing fashion at the Oval

## England wilt before Wasim and Waqar

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

THE OVAL (fourth day of five): Pakistan beat England by ten wickets

PAKISTAN have been guilty of demonstrable indiscipline, tainted by suspicions of murky malpractice and generally damned by faint praise. But in a little more than three days at the Oval, they have triumphantly paraded their prouder possessions, the finest bowlers in the world.

The hundreds of spectators who spent yesterday afternoon picnicking on the outfield were testimony to the sheer quality of an attack now unrivalled in Test cricket. England had been overwhelmed, bowled out twice in five sessions, and even the impeccable Oval pitch provided no sanctuary as the final Test, and Cornhill series, were spectacularly conceded.

Robin Smith's four hours of unbroken defiance counted for nothing as England, 173 behind on the first innings, were dismissed for 174, the lowest total of the series. Two balls from Ramprakash finished the game 15 minutes before lunch, but the debates were only just beginning.

At the end of his final series as England manager, and his third defeat by Pakistan, Micky Stewart awarded the man-of-the-series prize jointly to Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis. But when pressed on the legitimacy of the pair's stunning swing bowling, Stewart was curiously coy.

Hinting that he was aware of their method of making an old ball swing, Stewart repeatedly refused to comment on whether it fell within the laws of the game. "I won't spread it around," he said, "because once we perfect it..." His trailing sentence provoked a further volley of questions which brought Stewart to his feet, announcing that he was terminating the conference.

Stewart did not stint in his flattery of the two bowlers, who have between them taken 43 wickets in the five games and 28 in Pakistan's two victories. "They are the best pair of swing bowlers I have seen in all my years in the game," he said.

But the manager was notably reluctant to dispel the gossip of ball doctoring which has accompanied Pakistan, at increasing volume, through-

out this tour. It has persisted despite regular, copious ball inspections by the umpires and despite the insurmountable denials of Javed Miandad.

Miandad, whose record of seven victories in ten series as captain stands comparison with that of the great leaders, repeated yesterday: "There is no secret. Our bowlers are brought up to swing the ball and, because of the way your wickets are prepared, one side of it gets rough very quickly."

Whether one accepts this or not, there is an unedifying tendency to suspect the worst whenever new standards are set in any sport. Wasim and Waqar are doing things that are regarded as sinister because they are different.

They deserve better, as a deflated Graham Gooch admitted. "They were too good for us," he said. "Those two bowlers have been decisive and our batsmen have found it very hard to cope with the old ball swinging. The devastating thing is that they are both genuinely fast bowlers. I have never known anyone swing the ball so much at that pace."

In hindsight, England did well to come here on level

terms. In four of the five Tests, Pakistan have looked better, with emphatically superior bowlers. In this game, the message has been deafening. England did not bowl badly, indeed Tufnell and Malcolm did all they were chosen for. But the achievement of dismissing Pakistan for 380 paled into insignificance when England had to bat.

But for Smith, belatedly discarding the nervy impostor of recent Tests, the game would have been over on Saturday and the Test and County Cricket Board would have had the embarrassment of refunding yesterday's full house. Once Gooch had become the third of four wickets in 29 balls for Waqar, it was no longer a case of who would win but when.

Smith held firm to reach his 25th half-century in Tests. Lewis kept him company, but never comfortably, and when he charged at Mushtaq yesterday and was stumped by yards, it was no more than the little leg spinner deserved.

This ended a two-hour stand of 61 and Wasim, predictably, saw the opening and darted through. Pringle and Tufnell were bowled by balls, delivered around the wicket, which pitched on and hit off stump. Mallerder flashed instinctively and Malcolm was yanked leg stump, giving Waqar a 22-21 margin over his team-mate.

They danced off together, wreathed in smiles and embraces. England had not picked the right side but, as Gooch said: "The only mistake that mattered was that we couldn't get enough runs."

John Woodcock, page 24  
Photograph, page 24



Harm-raising: Pakistan's potent pairing, Waqar, left, and Wasim acknowledge victory at the Oval yesterday

## Stewart takes rough with smooth

MICKY Stewart, after his last match as England Test team manager, refused yesterday to clear — or condemn — the Pakistan fast bowlers, Waqar Younis and Wasim Akram, of accusations about their methods of obtaining swing from an old ball.

Theories about how Pakistan bowlers make the old ball swing more than the new one include scuffing one side of the ball and applying sweat

and spittle to one side to make it heavier.

Stewart said: "Yes, I know the method." He added: "We have discussed it as a team and we know how they do it. I just want England to produce bowlers who are as effective as Waqar and Wasim."

Asked if it was the quality of the bowling or the condition of the ball that made it swing so suddenly when 40 or more overs old, Stewart said: "It's

both." Told he was being mysterious, he said: "I know how it's done, but I would not want to spread it around because once we perfect it, if that were the idea..."

Javed Miandad, Pakistan's captain, said: "England lost because of pace, not because of swing. The umpires looked at the ball all the time. One side goes rough because of the hardness of the pitch, and we keep the other side shiny."

## Olympic officials to seek more funds

By John Goodbody

THE funding of Britain's elite competitors is to be reviewed following the moderate team performances at the summer and winter Olympic Games.

The British Olympic Association (BOA) will take part in talks over the winter to try to persuade the government that it should provide extra money. At the two Games in 1992, a total of 20 medals (including five gold medals) were won, whereas in 1988 there were 24, with the same number of golds.

Dick Palmer, the BOA secretary, said yesterday: "I would like to see a more direct interest and involvement by the government."

Not since London hosted the event in 1948 have so many British politicians visited the Olympics. Led by the prime minister, who is committed to Manchester's campaign to stage the 2000 Games, they will have seen the investment needed for success.

Palmer said: "The politicians must realise that we cannot play at this any more. The lesson we must take away is that in future we must to compete not participate."

never had an outstanding reputation for Olympic sports, except football, has not only built some superb arenas, but also devoted large sums to preparing competitors. The result has been a splendid Games for the host nation.

The national lottery in Britain may eventually furnish some of the facilities and support similar to those Spain has provided for these Games. However, the lottery will only come on stream in 1995 and this will be too late for both Lillehammer and Atlanta.

Over the next few months, the BOA will meet representatives of all the individual sports, some of which have not matched their results of recent Games in Barcelona, to discuss plans for the next four years. These include equestrianism, swimming, shooting and yachting.

While Palmer admitted that it is not "a bad thing for them to have a jolt from time to time", he knows that it is crucial for future success for more British sports to copy athletics and judo, which have consistently replaced ageing competitors with talented youngsters.

Britain's medal hopes fade as Whitaker and Milton stumble out of contention

## Classic Touch finds the golden touch

EDGE KEOGH



Full stretch: John Whitaker on Milton finished in fourteenth place

FROM JENNY MACARTHUR  
IN BARCELONA

LUDDER Beerbaum, of Germany, who thought he had "little chance" of even qualifying for the individual showjumping final after retiring with a broken leg from the team contest, won the gold medal yesterday after two faultless rounds on Classic Touch.

The 28-year-old Bavarian, whose victory in the bright sunshine was in marked contrast to the storms and driving rain which had delayed the start of the competition, is only the second rider to win the competition outright with two clear rounds. The first was his compatriot Alwin Schockemöhle on Warwick Rex in 1976.

Piet Raymakers and Ratina Z, members of the gold medal-winning Dutch team, were within a whisker of doing the same. But a quarter of a second time fault in the second round relegated them to the silver medal.

Norman delo Joio, of the United States, who had asked last month if he could withdraw from the team because he thought his eight-year-old horse Irish was too young, won the bronze. "She got better with each round," the 1983 World Cup winner said



Simon Barnes, page 14  
Olympic honours, page 19  
Hockey, page 19  
David Miller, page 20  
Results, page 21

afterwards, "but it's a hell of a place to shoot."

Britain's tale of woe in the equestrian events at these Olympic Games continued when John Whitaker and Milton, lying joint first after the opening round, stumbled badly after fence 4A in the second round. Whitaker cleared the double at the second attempt but the 15-year-old Milton then hit the second, two elements of fence 6, the influential combination. They finished fourteenth.

Whitaker's younger brother, Michael, and Monsanto, finished eighteenth. Tim Grubb, the only other Briton in it, bowed out of the competition when Denizen fell on his nose after taking off too early for fence 6 in the first round.

When the competition started, in driving rain, with spectators wrapped in dustbin liners, the conditions were atrocious. The Dutch favourite Jos Lansink, with Egano, paid a heavy price. Egano, never known to stop, was eliminated at fence 8.

After the tenth rider the rain stopped, and the scores improved. Beerbaum, Raymakers, Whitaker and Delo Joio all had clear rounds.

Delo Joio and Irish had just one fence down in the second round. Raymakers, worried about losing control of the strong Ratina took a long turn to fence 7 and paid dearly with a quarter time fault.

It still meant Beerbaum had to go clear to win the gold outright. But he is no stranger to pressure. In Seoul, riding The Freak, a horse he had sat on only once before, he had to achieve a similar feat to secure Germany's team gold medal.

Classic Touch, an eight-year-old Holstein mare by Caletto is not without a sense of occasion. After jumping faultlessly through the massive red and yellow combination, Beerbaum scented victory. Approaching fence 10 he said: "I knew I had just one fence left between me and the gold — fortunately Classic Touch knew it too."

## Hwang puts Korea on marathon roll

FOR the first time since 1936, a Korean won the Olympic men's marathon title yesterday when Hwang Young-cho used the long hill to his advantage to kick away from his closest challenger and win in 2hr 13min 23sec (David Powell writes).

Hwang, 22, had always been among the leaders but it was not until the 20 miles mark that he began to stamp his authority on the race.

It was ironic that the man who kept with Hwang the longest was a Japanese, Koichi Morishita. When Kee-Chung Sohn won the Berlin Olympic marathon 56 years ago, he was compelled to run under the Japanese flag because Japan had invaded their country. He also appeared under his Japanese

name of Kirei Son, the name that went into the record book.

Hwang came to the race as one of the fastest men in the field, having run 2hr 8min 47sec in Oita six months ago. On a course which demanded respect because of a sharp rise over the last three miles, Hwang bided his time.

At 20 miles, Hwang, Morishita and another Korean, Kim Wan-Ki, broke away from the group and, though Salvatore Bettiol, of Italy, and Stephan Freigang, of Germany, threatened briefly, the front men never seemed in danger. With little more than a mile to go, Hwang kicked away from Morishita and, by the finish, had 22 seconds in hand. Freigang moved up for third place in 2hr 14min. Steve Brace was the highest Briton in 2hr 17min 49sec.

## Dick content but attacks IAAF

FROM DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT, IN BARCELONA

FRANK Dick, Britain's director of coaching, said here at the weekend that his team would return home satisfied with its performance in the Olympic Games. At the same time, he repeated his criticism of the decision by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) to stage world championships every two years instead of every four.

The bulk of the British team returns home today with six athletics medals, two gold and four bronze, two fewer than in the last Games, although on that occasion none was gold. "Maybe the number of medals is not what we might have expected, but there are more countries getting among the medals now," Dick said. "I would not mind betting that more countries have won medals than in any previous Olympic Games. We have 16 or 17

athletes who have made the top eight in the world and, if we were talking about the quarter-finals at Wimbledon, we would be doing back somersaults."

Linford Christie, in the 100 metres, and Sally Gunnell, in the 400 metres hurdles, won Britain's first gold medals since 1984: Kriss Akabusi (400 metres hurdles), Steve Backley (javelin) and the men's and women's 4 x 400 metres team took bronzes.

The greatest disappointment was Liz McColgan's inability to add an Olympic gold medal at 10,000 metres to the one she took from the world championships in Tokyo last year, but she was among the overwhelming majority of those who failed to do the double. Only three of the 39 world champions in the individual events succeeded, a

statistic that Dick used to support his argument that biennial world championships are a mistake.

When the IAAF took the decision last year, Dick was strongly critical. "It is putting too much strain on the athletes to expect them to come out year after year and perform at their best at world level," Dick said then. At the weekend he noted that none of the men's world champions and only three women — Marie-José Perec (400 metres), Hassiba Boulmerka (1,500 metres) and Heike Henkel (high jump) — had won in the same event here.

"It goes back to the old argument of continuous world championships," Dick said. "Athletes cannot rise to a peak year after year. It's almost worthwhile us trying to get two teams established as the prob-

lem is compounded by grands prix and European meetings where athletes are trying to earn a living. They have to say to themselves: 'Do I run to pay the mortgage or do I invest the time in trying to get a medal?'"

Dick referred to "a golden thread of optimism in people such as Curtis Robb, David Grindley, Sandra Douglas, Steve Smith and Rob Denmark". These were young people, he said, who had come to their first Olympics and had coped with the moment admirably.

Grindley's contribution was the most surprising. Aged 19, he broke the British 400 metres record to reach the final and he goes home with a bronze medal from the 4 x 400 metres relay. "I really did not expect to be going home with a medal," he said.

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